

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, November 19, 2018 5:42 PM
To: Undisclosed recipients:
Subject: OSD(PA) COB
Attachments: 181119 - Houthis Ceasesfire.docx; 181119 TL Afrin.docx; 181119 TL Khashoggi Death.docx; 181119 TL Southwest Border.docx; 181119 TL Syria CIVCAS Allegations.docx; 181119 TL US and Pakistan's Mutual Interests.docx; 20181119 TL Thanksgiving for Service Members.docx
Signed By: (b)(6)

BRIEFINGS

* COL Manning, director, DPO, conducted an off-camera press engagement today. Topics included DOD support to the Southwest border, Syria CIVCAS allegations, U.S.-Pakistan mil-to-mil relationship, Yemen Policy, U.S.-ROK exercises. Transcript will be sent when available.

TOPLINES (attached):

- Southwest Border
- Syria CIVCAS Allegations
- U.S. and Pakistan's Mutual Interests
- Houthis: Ceasefire Offer
- Khashoggi Death
- Afrin Skirmish

THREE DAY FORECAST

Non Responsive

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Non Responsive

Non Responsive

Defense Press Operations

(b)(6)

Khashoggi Death

I am not going to speculate on the death of Mr. Khashoggi or any potential impacts to foreign policy with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Talking Points

- We don't discuss intelligence matters in public.
- I am not going to speculate on foreign policy.
- [If pressed on relationship with Saudi] The murder of Khashoggi is separate from the Yemen situation. That stands unique by itself.
- [If pressed on relationship with Saudi] There's been no change in the mil-to-mil relationship that we have with Saudi Arabia and the parameters of that relationship. And if there is a change in that, we'll certainly make sure that you're aware of it.

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From: (b)(6) OSD PA (US)
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2018 6:01 PM
To: Undisclosed recipients:
Subject: OSD(PA) COB
Attachments: 181022 TL AFG Elections Update.docx; 181022 TL US-Saudi Relationship.docx;
181022 TL Missile Defense Review Update.docx; 1801022 Taiwan Strait
Transit.docx; 181022 TL Manbij Mission Rehearsals.doc (3).docx;
1022manning_FINAL.DOCX
Signed By: (b)(6)

BRIEFINGS

* DPO Director, COL Manning, conducted an off-camera press engagement today. Topics included Afghanistan, coalition strike in Syria, Taiwan Strait transit, USNS Comfort arrival in Ecuador, Hurricane Michael recovery efforts, the southern border and the INF. Transcript attached.

TOPLINES (attached):

- Afghanistan: Parliamentary Elections
- Missile Defense Review
- Manbij Mission Rehearsals
- Taiwan Strait Transit Oct 21-22
- US-Saudi Arabia Relations

THREE DAY FORECAST

Non Responsive

Non Responsive

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Non Responsive

Non Responsive

Defense Press Operations

(b)(6)

US-Saudi Arabia Relations

The United States share a longstanding and important security relationship with Saudi Arabia and are committed to their security and weapon systems needs to increase their capacity for self-defense.

Talking Points

General

- Saudi Arabia plays a crucial role in maintaining security in the Middle East, due to its economic, political, and cultural importance and its strategic location.
- The U.S. military has had a mil-to-mil relationship with Saudi Arabia for decades which includes military personnel from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Special Operation Forces providing training, advising, and assisting in a variety of mission areas.
- While we will continue to assist Saudi Arabia with its legitimate defense needs and its right to defend its borders, a political solution is the only way to advance long term stability in Yemen and end the suffering of the Yemeni people. We remain committed to providing the Saudi armed forces with the equipment, training, and follow-on support necessary to protect Saudi Arabia, and the region, from the destabilizing effects of terrorism and other threats.
- The DOD's limited non-combat support, such as intelligence sharing, focuses on assisting our partners in securing their borders from cross-border attacks from the Houthis and improving coalition processes and procedures.
- Importantly, the U.S. military support to our partners mitigates noncombatant casualties, by improving coalition processes and procedures, especially regarding compliance with the law of armed conflict and best practices for reducing the risk of civilian casualties.
- The final decisions on the conduct of operations in the campaign are made by the members of the Saudi-led coalition, not the United States.

- [If pressed on details of U.S. support] We are not going to discuss publicly any specific support we may or may not have provided for operational security reasons.
- [If pressed] The support to Saudi-led coalition is not unconditional. They should do everything humanly possible to avoid any innocent loss of life, and support the U.N.-brokered peace process.
- [If pressed] There has been no change to our relationship or support to Saudi Arabia.

Non Responsive

Non Responsive

Saudi Journalist Khashoggi

- Refer you to State Department on Secretary Pompeo's trip.
- Refer you to the White House on potential response to Saudi's involvement in the disappearance of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.
- *"The implications of everything going on extend far beyond our defense relationship. So, the president and the secretary of state are currently dealing with this issue. I'm not going to speculate until I have a better understanding of what happened. But I would not depart from anything as characterized by the President or the Secretary of State."* Secretary Mattis, September 15, 2018
- *"If you look at their words on this, as our leads on foreign policy -- again, here's foreign policy and military is nested inside that."* Secretary Mattis, September 15, 2018
- *"We reinforce, we buttress, we support, we align with the nation's foreign policy."* Secretary Mattis, September 15, 2018

Coordinated with:

Non Responsive

Prepared by: (b)(6)

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From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 5:30 PM
To: Undisclosed recipients:
Subject: OSD(PA) COB
Attachments: 180117 TL Receipts Book.docx; 181017 TL US-Saudi Relationship.docx
Signed By: (b)(6)

ON TOP

Non Responsive

TOPLINES (attached):

– Report: Providing for the Common Defense (Receipts Booklet) – US-Saudi Arabia Relations

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Non Responsive

Prepared by: (b)(6)

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From: (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, October 16, 2018 5:07 PM
To: Undisclosed recipients;
Subject: OSD(PA) COB
Attachments: 181016 TL DOD Mission in Syria.docx; 181016 TL US-Saudi Relationship.docx
Signed By: (b)(6)

BRIEFINGS

* Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve update briefing to Pentagon Press Corps. Army Col. Sean J. Ryan, CJTF-OIR spokesman, provided a briefing via video. Topics included operational update, the situation in Raqqa a year after its liberation, and training for combined patrols in Manbij. Transcript will be posted to defense.gov when available.

TOPLINES (attached):

- DOD Mission in Syria
- US-Saudi Arabia Relations

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ITEMS OF INTEREST

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Coordinated with:

Non Responsive

Prepared by: (b)(6)

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From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2018 6:58 PM
To: Undisclosed recipients;
Subject: OSD(PA) COB
Attachments: 181011 TL DOD Mission in Syria.docx; 181011 TL Iranian Malign Influence.docx; 181011 TL Manbij Mission Rehearsals.docx
Signed By: (b)(6)

ON TOP

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TOPLINES (attached):

Non Responsive

THREE DAY FORECAST

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Non Responsive

ITEMS OF INTEREST

- * KSA Support. Multiple reporters asked whether DOD will consider changing support to Saudi Arabia due to the suspected killing of Jamal Khashoggi. Cleared response with Policy, provided to CENTCOM and responded to reporters, "No change and to contact State Department further questions on the suspected killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi."

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Non Responsive

Defense Press Operations
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LEGISLATIVE
AFFAIRS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1300

INFO MEMO

October 12, 2018

FROM: Mr. Robert R. Hood, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs

SUBJECT: Member Statements on Jamal Khashoggi's Disappearance

Purpose: Provide recent Member statements regarding the disappearance and possible assassination of Saudi Journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Turkey

Overview: Members have voiced strong concerns regarding the disappearance of Virginia resident Jamal Khashoggi from the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, Turkey, on 2 October. The incident comes at a particularly sensitive time in U.S.-Saudi relations, with congressional discontent growing due to continued U.S. air refueling support for Saudi-led coalition operations in Yemen that have resulted in significant civilian casualties. Senators Corker, Menendez, Graham, and Leahy sent a letter to the President on 11 October triggering a U.S. government investigation into the actions of "the highest-ranking officials in the government of Saudi Arabia" that could result in sanctions under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (see TAB A). Separately, Virginia Senators Kaine and Warner also sent a bipartisan, bicameral letter to the President on 9 October requesting that he raise the issue with the Saudi and Turkish governments (see TAB B). Relevant Member statements are listed below.

Senator John Cornyn (R-TX):

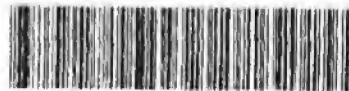
- "This is obviously a very serious matter, and our relationship with Saudi Arabia is important but I'd hate to see it damaged if some of the allegations prove to be true." (*CQ News; October 11, 2018*)

Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY):

- "Schumer calls Khashoggi disappearance 'despicable.' Asked about the disappearance of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi on Oct. 10, Sen. Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) slammed Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, saying 'reformers don't kill their political opponents.'" (*Washington Post; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Bob Corker (R-TN):

- "I've read the intel, and I would just say this... I hope that I am not right. And I hope that somehow or another he is produced as a live human being someplace but I absolutely believe the Saudis martyred him. And I believe that it's something that you know possibly went to the highest levels. And if that's the case... I think it's going to hugely alter our relationship. ... This is... is going to really alter our relationship with them if they in fact are carrying out the same kinds of things that Russia is doing and that is killing citizens in other countries like it



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appears Saudi may have done to an American citizen in Turkey." (*Fox News; October 11, 2018*)

- "I've shared with them [the Saudis] that they are at a very, very low point as it relates to political support here in the Senate, the lowest ever. This would drop it off the cliff. Further arms sales to Saudi Arabia are definitely at stake, and any consequences will be significant and definite." (*CQ News; October 10, 2018*)
- [If the Senate were to vote on an arms sale to Riyadh for the Yemen war, the sale would be blocked, Corker told Defense News last week, even before the Khashoggi matter caught the attention of Capitol Hill.] "I think if right now there were a vote to disapprove of a sale, that they would lose. That's where I think where they are," [Corker said.]" (*Defense News; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ):

- "...I can't speak to the intelligence itself, but I can characterize it. It is incredibly alarming. I think the Saudis have a lot of answering to do. And my own view, is either Mr. Khashoggi has been detained and maybe some form of rendition or he has been murdered. And in either event, we need to get to the bottom of how either his either his rendition, disappearance and/or murder took place. And that is why we invoked for the first time, as the chairman and the ranking member, myself as the ranking member, invoke for the first time the provisions of Global Magnitsky that lowers us to require the president to conduct an investigation and come back to the Congress with an answer. And secondly, if the answer leads to anyone in the Saudi government or anyone else associated with the Saudi government as being the perpetrators, then there are consequences for that, and we expect to be taken extremely seriously. ... if the facts deduce, that in fact, [leadership in Saudi Arabia] were a part of the disappearance, rendition and/or murder of Mr. Khashoggi, then they must pay the consequences." (*CNN; October 11, 2018*)

Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC):

- "I don't want to jump to conclusions, but it is very unnerving. If something like that did happen, it would show complete contempt by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia against international norms, it would show contempt for our relationship. It would be a game-changer for me." (*CQ News; October 10, 2018*)
- [One measure of the tension between Saudi Arabia and Capitol Hill is the reaction from Sen. Lindsey Graham, a past defender of arms sales to Riyadh, who told reporters Wednesday "there would be hell to pay" if Khashoggi was murdered by the Saudi government — though he cautioned,] "we don't want to rush to judgment." "I've never been more disturbed than I am right now. If this man was murdered in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, that would cross every line of normality in the international community." (*Defense News; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL):

- "For someone to be murdered in a diplomatic facility overseas, I don't know if that has any precedent. It would be an outrage. And it would impact the bilateral relationship, there's no doubt about it, certainly here on Capitol Hill." (*CQ News; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT):

- “If this is true - that the Saudis lured a U.S. resident into their consulate and murdered him - it should represent a fundamental break in our relationship with Saudi Arabia.” (*Twitter; October 11, 2018*)
- Murphy has led multiple unsuccessful efforts to block the sale of precision-guided munitions to Saudi Arabia and to end U.S. military support of the country’s war in Yemen. But he said he now feels the tide is finally turning in the Senate. “Many of us have argued that we shouldn’t be giving the Saudis the benefit of the doubt, that they are in fact intentionally killing civilians,” [Murphy said.] “For those that were skeptical of whether the Saudis are intentionally killing civilians in Yemen, this might change their minds.” (*CQ News; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Todd Young (R-IN):

- Young, who has led bipartisan efforts to prod Riyadh to do more to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Yemen caused by its bombing campaign, said Saudi Arabia’s track record gave him good reason to be suspicious. “I don’t give the Saudi leadership the benefit of the doubt on much of anything these days so I’m most concerned about their human rights record, about their manner of conducting the military operations in Yemen and about this latest news related to the Saudi journalist.” (*CQ News; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY):

- “The Saudis will keep killing civilians and journalists as long as we keep arming and assisting them. The President should immediately halt arms sales and military support to Saudi Arabia.” (*Twitter; October 11, 2018*)
- “Today, U.S. Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) introduced legislation to cut off U.S. military aid and assistance to Saudi Arabia until U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo determines that missing American resident and Saudi Arabian journalist Jamal Khashoggi is alive and free. ‘Time and again, clear evidence has proven that sending American taxpayer support to Saudi Arabia is not in our national security interest and instead helps further destabilize the Middle East. My bill gives Congress another chance to take a stand,’ said Dr. Paul.” (*Press Release; October 11, 2018*)
- “If they’re responsible — or even if there’s any indication that they’re implicated in killing this journalist that was critical of them — we’ve got to stop sending them arms.” Paul said he would be “forcing votes” against arms sales to Saudi Arabia, adding that he differed with Trump on the matter. “Who knows — the president may come around on this if there’s any evidence that they killed this journalist.” (*Defense News; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Jack Reed (D-RI):

- “I am deeply disturbed by the disappearance of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi and the Saudi government’s alleged role. If these allegations are proven, the Trump Administration

must hold Saudi Arabia and anyone else involved accountable. President Trump must also recognize that his repeated attacks on the free press and praise of authoritarian regimes do not go unnoticed by other world leaders. When President Trump repeatedly praises men like Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong Un and turns a blind eye to human rights abuses of authoritarian regimes, he undercuts American leadership in the world. The U.S. needs to provide all available intelligence and other resources to enable a credible investigation into the fate of Mr. Khashoggi, wherever the facts lead. In taking a hard look at what happened to Mr. Khashoggi, we must determine what happened to him, how, and why. And whoever is responsible must be held accountable." (*Press Release; October 11, 2018*)

Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA):

- "Jamal Khashoggi is a Virginia resident, so his disappearance is personal to me. President Trump needs to raise this case immediately with Saudi Arabia and Turkey and demand answers." (*Twitter; October 9, 2018*)

Senator Mark Warner (D-VA):

- "Jamal Khashoggi is a journalist and Virginia resident who's gone missing after entering the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. We need to get answers about his disappearance, and I've written to the President urging him to raise this case with the Saudi and Turkish governments." (*Twitter; October 10, 2018*)

Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA):

- "Rep. Gerry Connolly (D), who represents the northern Virginia district where Khashoggi was living in exile, said the administration's push for Saudi officials to investigate an alleged crime they're accused of masterminding risks letting the fox guard the henhouse. 'If the Saudis are responsible for the crime, you don't ask the criminal to investigate himself,' Connolly said during a press conference outside The Washington Post offices in D.C., where Khashoggi wrote as a columnist. 'There has to be an independent international investigation so we can get to the bottom of what happened,' he added. 'We will not rest until that happens.'" ("Virginia Dem rips administration on Khashoggi," *The Hill, October 10, 2018*)

COORDINATION: None

Prepared by: (b)(6)

Attachments:

- TAB A: SFRC Press Release with Letter
TAB B: Sens. Warner & Kaine Letter

OCTOBER 10, 2018

WASHINGTON – In a letter to President Donald J. Trump, U.S. Senators Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) and Bob Menendez (D-N.J.), chairman and ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) and Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), chairman and ranking member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, today triggered an investigation and Global Magnitsky sanctions determination regarding the disappearance of Jamal Khashoggi, a Saudi journalist and columnist for The Washington Post. Khashoggi has not been heard from since he entered a Saudi consulate in Istanbul last Tuesday afternoon. The letter was also signed by Senators Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), Ben Cardin (D-Md.), John Barrasso (R-Wyo.), Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.), Tim Kaine (D-Va.), Cory Gardner (R-Colo.), Ed Markey (D-Mass.), Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), Todd Young (R-Ind.), Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.), Rob Portman (R-Ohio), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Ron Johnson (R-Wis.), Chris Coons (D-Del.), Jim Risch (R-Idaho), and Tom Udall (D-N.M.).

Text of the letter is included below.

Dear Mr. President:

The Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act requires the President, upon receipt of a request from the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, to determine whether a foreign person is responsible for an extrajudicial killing, torture, or other gross violation of internationally recognized human rights against an individual exercising freedom of expression, and report to the Committee within 120 days with a determination and a decision on the imposition of sanctions on that foreign person or persons.

The recent disappearance of Saudi journalist and Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi suggests that he could be a victim of a gross violation of internationally recognized human rights, which includes “torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, prolonged detention without charges and trial, causing the disappearance of persons by the abduction and clandestine detention of those persons, and other flagrant denial of the right to life, liberty, or the security of person.” Therefore, we request that you make a determination on the imposition of sanctions pursuant to the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act with respect to any foreign person responsible for such a violation related to Mr. Khashoggi. Our expectation is that in making your determination you will consider any relevant information, including with respect to the highest ranking officials in the Government of Saudi Arabia.

BACKGROUND

Under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, the president, upon receipt of a letter from the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, must make a determination and is authorized to impose sanctions with respect to a foreign person responsible for extrajudicial killings, torture, or other gross violations of internationally recognized human rights violations against individuals who seek to obtain, exercise, defend, or promote human rights and freedoms, including freedom of expression.

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 9, 2018

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

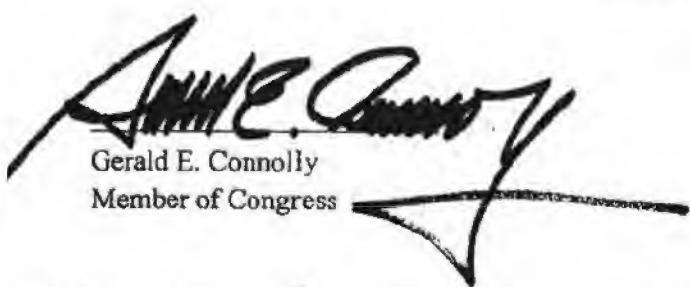
We write to urge you to personally raise the issue of Virginia resident Jamal Khashoggi's disappearance and welfare with the governments of Saudi Arabia and Turkey. We also request that you offer U.S. support to any independent investigation into his disappearance.

As you know, Mr. Khashoggi is an internationally renowned journalist and columnist for the Washington Post. In fact, Mr. Khashoggi was granted an O-1 visa, which is reserved for those with "extraordinary ability in the fields of science, education, business or athletics...indicating that the person is one of the small percentage who has risen to the very top of the field of endeavor."

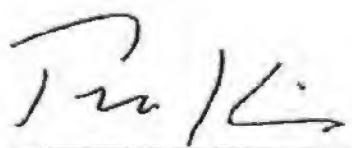
On October 2, 2018, Mr. Khashoggi visited the Saudi consulate in Istanbul in order to obtain paperwork related to his upcoming marriage. Reportedly, there has been no confirmation that he departed the consulate though Saudi officials maintain that Mr. Khashoggi did so shortly after he visited. According to President Erdogan, the Justice Ministry and the chief prosecutor in Istanbul are undertaking an investigation into Mr. Khashoggi's whereabouts.

These conflicting reports and rampant speculation that he was murdered demand immediate answers from both Saudi Arabia and Turkey. We urge you to extend support from all appropriate U.S. federal agencies, such as the FBI, to these governments to conduct a thorough and transparent investigation of Mr. Khashoggi's case. We sincerely hope that Mr. Khashoggi emerges unharmed and is free to return safely to the United States, especially given the growing and deeply troubling trend of targeting journalists and oppositionists, not only in Saudi Arabia and Turkey, but around the world. The U.S. must speak out loudly wherever and whenever this occurs.

Best Regards,



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Tim Kaine
U.S. Senator

Sen. Warner, Rep. Beyer, Castro, Chabot, Cicilline, DelBene, Deutch, Dingell, Engel,
Espaillat, Hastings, Lieu, McEachin, Meadows, Malinowski, Meeks, Price, Portman,
Schneider, Sires, & Swalley

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Yemen Briefing – December 13, 2018 0900

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(b)(1),(b)(5),Sec. 1.4(c),Sec. 1.4(d)

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OSJI/1:19-cv-00234/000415

Yemen Briefing – December 13, 2018 0900

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(b)(1),(b)(5), Sec. 1.4(c), Sec. 1.4(d)

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Non Responsive

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~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

EXSUM: House All-Member Briefing on Yemen / U.S. Relations with Saudi Arabia

DATE/TIME: Thursday, 13 December 2018/0900

LOCATION: CVC Auditorium

(b)(5)

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(b)(1), Sec. 1.4(c)

(b)(1), Sec. 1.4(c)

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

(b)(1),(b)(5),Sec. 1.4(d)

Non Responsive

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Non Responsive

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Non Responsive

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Non Responsive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Non Responsive

(b)(5)

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

EXSUM: House All-Member Briefing on Yemen / U.S. Relations with Saudi Arabia

DATE/TIME: Thursday, 13 December 2018/0900

LOCATION: CVC Auditorium

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Non Responsive

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(b)(1), Sec. 1.4(c)

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(b)(1),(b)(5), Sec. 1.4(d)

Non Responsive

(b)(5)

Non Responsive

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Non Responsive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Non Responsive

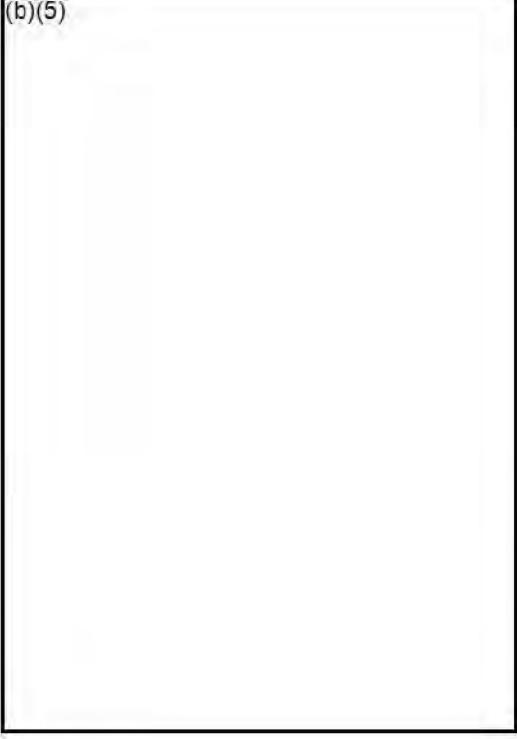
(b)(5)

Non Responsive

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~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

(b)(5)



OSJI/1:19-cv-00234/000424

From: (b)(6)
To: Thomas, James A Jr SES USAF SAF-US (US); (b)(6) Milam, Megan A SES OSD OUSD C
(US); (b)(6)
(b)(6) Giambastiani, Pete SES OSD OASD LA (US); Hood,
Robert R HON OSD OASD LA (US); (b)(6)
(b)(6)
(b)(6) McAleer, Laura P SES OSD
OASD LA (US); Miller, Jamie I SES (US); (b)(6)
(b)(6) Kozik,
David A SES OSD OUSD INTEL (US); (b)(6)
(b)(6)
(b)(6)

Cc:

Subject: Info Memo - Member statements regarding Saudi Journalist Jamal Khashogg
Date: Friday, October 12, 2018 12:25:31 PM
Attachments: [ASD-LA Info Memo_Khashoggi_v3.docx](#)
[TAB A - Text of SFRC Letter.pdf](#)
[TAB B - Kaine Letter.pdf](#)

Mr. Hood and colleagues,

Attached, please find a compilation of Member statements from the past couple days regarding the disappearance and possible assassination of Saudi Journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Turkey, as mentioned at this morning's sync meeting. As you can see, many have made very strong statements, such as, if true, this is "going to hugely alter our relationship" (Corker); "be a game-changer" and "there would be hell to pay" (Graham); "an outrage" (Rubio); "should represent a fundamental break in our relationship with Saudi Arabia" (Murphy); "deeply disturbed" (Reed); and "despicable" (Schumer).

Hard copy Info Memo with (b)(6) in the LA Front Office. Please let me know if you would like anything further in relation to this matter.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Office: (b)(6)

Email: (b)(6)

INFO MEMO

Member Statements on Jamal Khashoggi's Disappearance
October 11, 2018

To: Mr. Robert R. Hood, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs

From: OASD LA Research Team

Purpose: Provide recent Member statements regarding the disappearance and possible assassination of Saudi Journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Turkey

Overview: Members have voiced strong concerns regarding the disappearance of Virginia resident Jamal Khashoggi from the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, Turkey, on 2 October. The incident comes at a particularly sensitive time in U.S.-Saudi relations, with congressional discontent growing due to continued U.S. air refueling support for Saudi-led coalition operations in Yemen that have resulted in significant civilian casualties. Senators Corker, Menendez, Graham, and Leahy sent a letter to the President on 11 October triggering a U.S. government investigation into the actions of "the highest-ranking officials in the government of Saudi Arabia" that could result in sanctions under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (see TAB A). Separately, Virginia Senators Kaine and Warner also sent a bipartisan, bicameral letter to the President on 9 October requesting that he raise the issue with the Saudi and Turkish governments (see TAB B). Relevant Member statements are listed below.

Senator John Cornyn (R-TX):

- "This is obviously a very serious matter, and our relationship with Saudi Arabia is important but I'd hate to see it damaged if some of the allegations prove to be true." (*CQ News; October 11, 2018*)

Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY):

- "Schumer calls Khashoggi disappearance 'despicable.' Asked about the disappearance of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi on Oct. 10, Sen. Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.) slammed Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, saying 'reformers don't kill their political opponents.'" (*Washington Post; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Bob Corker (R-TN):

- "I've read the intel, and I would just say this... I hope that I am not right. And I hope that somehow or another he is produced as a live human being someplace but I absolutely believe the Saudis martyred him. And I believe that it's something that you know possibly went to the highest levels. And if that's the case... I think it's going to hugely alter our relationship. ... This is... is going to really alter our relationship with them if they in fact are carrying out the same kinds of things that Russia is doing and that is killing citizens in other countries like it appears Saudi may have done to an American citizen in Turkey." (*Fox News; October 11, 2018*)
- "I've shared with them [the Saudis] that they are at a very, very low point as it relates to political support here in the Senate, the lowest ever. This would drop it off the cliff. Further arms sales to Saudi Arabia are definitely at stake, and any consequences will be significant and definite." (*CQ News; October 10, 2018*)

- [If the Senate were to vote on an arms sale to Riyadh for the Yemen war, the sale would be blocked, Corker told Defense News last week, even before the Khashoggi matter caught the attention of Capitol Hill.] “I think if right now there were a vote to disapprove of a sale, that they would lose. That’s where I think where they are.” [Corker said.]” (*Defense News*; October 10, 2018)

Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ):

- “...I can’t speak to the intelligence itself, but I can characterize it. It is incredibly alarming. I think the Saudis have a lot of answering to do. And my own view, is either Mr. Khashoggi has been detained and maybe some form of rendition or he has been murdered. And in either event, we need to get to the bottom of how either his either his rendition, disappearance and/or murder took place. And that is why we invoked for the first time, as the chairman and the ranking member, myself as the ranking member, invoke for the first time the provisions of Global Magnitsky that lowers us to require the president to conduct an investigation and come back to the Congress with an answer. And secondly, if the answer leads to anyone in the Saudi government or anyone else associated with the Saudi government as being the perpetrators, then there are consequences for that, and we expect to be taken extremely seriously. ... if the facts deduce, that in fact, [leadership in Saudi Arabia] were a part of the disappearance, rendition and/or murder of Mr. Khashoggi, then they must pay the consequences.” (*CNN*, October 11, 2018)

Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC):

- “I don’t want to jump to conclusions, but it is very unnerving. If something like that did happen, it would show complete contempt by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia against international norms, it would show contempt for our relationship. It would be a game-changer for me.” (*CQ News*; October 10, 2018)
- [One measure of the tension between Saudi Arabia and Capitol Hill is the reaction from Sen. Lindsey Graham, a past defender of arms sales to Riyadh, who told reporters Wednesday “there would be hell to pay” if Khashoggi was murdered by the Saudi government — though he cautioned,] “we don’t want to rush to judgment.” “I’ve never been more disturbed than I am right now. If this man was murdered in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, that would cross every line of normality in the international community.” (*Defense News*; October 10, 2018)

Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL):

- “For someone to be murdered in a diplomatic facility overseas, I don’t know if that has any precedent. It would be an outrage. And it would impact the bilateral relationship, there’s no doubt about it, certainly here on Capitol Hill.” (*CQ News*; October 10, 2018)

Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT):

- “If this is true - that the Saudis lured a U.S. resident into their consulate and murdered him - it should represent a fundamental break in our relationship with Saudi Arabia.” (*Twitter*; October 11, 2018)
- Murphy has led multiple unsuccessful efforts to block the sale of precision-guided munitions to Saudi Arabia and to end U.S. military support of the country’s war in Yemen. But he said he now feels the tide is finally turning in the Senate. “Many of us have argued that we shouldn’t be giving the Saudis the benefit of the doubt, that they are in fact intentionally killing

civilians.” [Murphy said.] “For those that were skeptical of whether the Saudis are intentionally killing civilians in Yemen, this might change their minds.” (*CQ News; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Todd Young (R-IN):

- Young, who has led bipartisan efforts to prod Riyadh to do more to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Yemen caused by its bombing campaign, said Saudi Arabia’s track record gave him good reason to be suspicious. “I don’t give the Saudi leadership the benefit of the doubt on much of anything these days so I’m most concerned about their human rights record, about their manner of conducting the military operations in Yemen and about this latest news related to the Saudi journalist.” (*CQ News; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Rand Paul (R-KY):

- “The Saudis will keep killing civilians and journalists as long as we keep arming and assisting them. The President should immediately halt arms sales and military support to Saudi Arabia.” (*Twitter; October 11, 2018*)
- “Today, U.S. Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) introduced legislation to cut off U.S. military aid and assistance to Saudi Arabia until U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo determines that missing American resident and Saudi Arabian journalist Jamal Khashoggi is alive and free. “Time and again, clear evidence has proven that sending American taxpayer support to Saudi Arabia is not in our national security interest and instead helps further destabilize the Middle East. My bill gives Congress another chance to take a stand,” said Dr. Paul.” (*Press Release; October 11, 2018*)
- “If they’re responsible — or even if there’s any indication that they’re implicated in killing this journalist that was critical of them — we’ve got to stop sending them arms.” Paul said he would be “forcing votes” against arms sales to Saudi Arabia, adding that he differed with Trump on the matter. “Who knows — the president may come around on this if there’s any evidence that they killed this journalist.” (*Defense News; October 10, 2018*)

Senator Jack Reed (D-RI):

- “I am deeply disturbed by the disappearance of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi and the Saudi government’s alleged role. If these allegations are proven, the Trump Administration must hold Saudi Arabia and anyone else involved accountable. President Trump must also recognize that his repeated attacks on the free press and praise of authoritarian regimes do not go unnoticed by other world leaders. When President Trump repeatedly praises men like Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong Un and turns a blind eye to human rights abuses of authoritarian regimes, he undercuts American leadership in the world. The U.S. needs to provide all available intelligence and other resources to enable a credible investigation into the fate of Mr. Khashoggi, wherever the facts lead. In taking a hard look at what happened to Mr. Khashoggi, we must determine what happened to him, how, and why. And whoever is responsible must be held accountable.” (*Press Release; October 11, 2018*)

Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA):

- “Jamal Khashoggi is a Virginia resident, so his disappearance is personal to me. President Trump needs to raise this case immediately with Saudi Arabia and Turkey and demand answers.” (*Twitter; October 9, 2018*)

Senator Mark Warner (D-VA):

- “Jamal Khashoggi is a journalist and Virginia resident who’s gone missing after entering the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. We need to get answers about his disappearance, and I’ve written to the President urging him to raise this case with the Saudi and Turkish governments.”
(Twitter; October 10, 2018)

Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA):

- “Rep. Gerry Connolly (D), who represents the northern Virginia district where Khashoggi was living in exile, said the administration’s push for Saudi officials to investigate an alleged crime they’re accused of masterminding risks letting the fox guard the henhouse. ‘If the Saudis are responsible for the crime, you don’t ask the criminal to investigate himself,’ Connolly said during a press conference outside The Washington Post offices in D.C., where Khashoggi wrote as a columnist. ‘There has to be an independent international investigation so we can get to the bottom of what happened,’ he added. ‘We will not rest until that happens.’” (“Virginia Dem rips administration on Khashoggi,” *The Hill*, October 10, 2018)

Attachments:

TAB A: SFRC Press Release with Letter

TAB B: Sens. Warner & Kaine Letter

OCTOBER 10, 2018

WASHINGTON – In a letter to President Donald J. Trump, U.S. Senators Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) and Bob Menendez (D-N.J.), chairman and ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) and Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), chairman and ranking member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, today triggered an investigation and Global Magnitsky sanctions determination regarding the disappearance of Jamal Khashoggi, a Saudi journalist and columnist for The Washington Post. Khashoggi has not been heard from since he entered a Saudi consulate in Istanbul last Tuesday afternoon. The letter was also signed by Senators Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), Ben Cardin (D-Md.), John Barrasso (R-Wyo.), Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.), Tim Kaine (D-Va.), Cory Gardner (R-Colo.), Ed Markey (D-Mass.), Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.), Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), Todd Young (R-Ind.), Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.), Rob Portman (R-Ohio), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Ron Johnson (R-Wis.), Chris Coons (D-Del.), Jim Risch (R-Idaho), and Tom Udall (D-N.M.).

Text of the letter is included below.

Dear Mr. President:

The Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act requires the President, upon receipt of a request from the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, to determine whether a foreign person is responsible for an extrajudicial killing, torture, or other gross violation of internationally recognized human rights against an individual exercising freedom of expression, and report to the Committee within 120 days with a determination and a decision on the imposition of sanctions on that foreign person or persons.

The recent disappearance of Saudi journalist and Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi suggests that he could be a victim of a gross violation of internationally recognized human rights, which includes “torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, prolonged detention without charges and trial, causing the disappearance of persons by the abduction and clandestine detention of those persons, and other flagrant denial of the right to life, liberty, or the security of person.” Therefore, we request that you make a determination on the imposition of sanctions pursuant to the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act with respect to any foreign person responsible for such a violation related to Mr. Khashoggi. Our expectation is that in making your determination you will consider any relevant information, including with respect to the highest ranking officials in the Government of Saudi Arabia.

BACKGROUND

Under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, the president, upon receipt of a letter from the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, must make a determination and is authorized to impose sanctions with respect to a foreign person responsible for extrajudicial killings, torture, or other gross violations of internationally recognized human rights violations against individuals who seek to obtain, exercise, defend, or promote human rights and freedoms, including freedom of expression.

Dear Mr. President,

We write to urge you to personally raise the issue of Virginia resident Jamal Khashoggi's disappearance and welfare with the governments of Saudi Arabia and Turkey. We also request that you offer U.S. support to any independent investigation into his disappearance.

As you know, Mr. Khashoggi is an internationally renowned journalist and columnist for the Washington Post. In fact, Mr. Khashoggi was granted an O-1 visa, which is reserved for those with "extraordinary ability in the fields of science, education, business or athletics... indicating that the person is one of the small percentage who has risen to the very top of the field of endeavor."

On October 2, 2018, Mr. Khashoggi visited the Saudi consulate in Istanbul in order to obtain paperwork related to his upcoming marriage. Reportedly, there has been no confirmation that he departed the consulate though Saudi officials maintain that Mr. Khashoggi did so shortly after he visited. According to President Erdogan, the Justice Ministry and the chief prosecutor in Istanbul are undertaking an investigation into Mr. Khashoggi's whereabouts.

These conflicting reports and rampant speculation that he was murdered demand immediate answers from both Saudi Arabia and Turkey. We urge you to extend support from all appropriate U.S. federal agencies, such as the FBI, to these governments to conduct a thorough and transparent investigation of Mr. Khashoggi's case. We sincerely hope that Mr. Khashoggi emerges unharmed and is free to return safely to the United States, especially given the growing and deeply troubling trend of targeting journalists and oppositionists, not only in Saudi Arabia and Turkey, but around the world. The U.S. must speak out loudly wherever and whenever this occurs.

Best Regards,


Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Tim Kaine
U.S. Senator

Khashoggi Death

I am not going to speculate on the death of Mr. Khashoggi or any potential impacts to foreign policy with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Talking Points

- We don't discuss intelligence matters in public.
- I'm not going to speculate on foreign policy.
- [If pressed on relationship with Saudi] The murder of Khashoggi is separate from the Yemen situation. That stands unique by itself.
- [If pressed on relationship with Saudi] There's been no change in the mil-to-mil relationship that we have with Saudi Arabia and the parameters of that relationship. And if there is a change in that, we'll certainly make sure that you're aware of it.

Prepared by: (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US)
Subject: RE: What The Admin Is Saying | The Trump Administration Seeks A Complete Investigation Into Jamal Khashoggi's Disappearance
Date: Thursday, October 18, 2018 4:59:24 PM

Printed

From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2018 4:30 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: What The Admin Is Saying | The Trump Administration Seeks A Complete Investigation Into Jamal Khashoggi's Disappearance

(b)(6)

Would you please print for me?

Thanks

Dana

Ms. Dana W. White
ATSD/PA

(b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hahn, Julia A. EOP/WHO" (b)(6)
Date: October 19, 2018 at 1:30:00 AM GMT+8
To: Undisclosed recipients;
Subject: What The Admin Is Saying | The Trump Administration Seeks A Complete Investigation Into Jamal Khashoggi's Disappearance

What the Admin Is Saying | The Trump Administration Seeks A Complete Investigation Into Jamal Khashoggi's Disappearance

The Trump Administration takes the disappearance of Jamal Khashoggi very seriously and the President's concerns have been made known to the highest levels of the Saudi government, including the King.

SECRETARY OF STATE MIKE POMPEO: "I had a chance to brief the President on the travels that I returned from last evening where I traveled both to Riyadh and Ankara. Had a chance to talk with in --in

Riyadh with the king, with the crown prince, with the foreign minister, all of the United States counterparts there. We made clear to them that we take this matter with respect to Mr. Khashoggi very seriously. They made clear to me that they too understand the serious nature of the disappearance of Mr. Khashoggi."

Saudi Arabia assured the United States that they will conduct a complete, thorough, and transparent investigation into Khashoggi's disappearance in a timely fashion.

SECRETARY POMPEO: "They also assured me that they will conduct a complete, thorough investigation of all of the facts surrounding Mr. Khashoggi and that they'll do so in a timely fashion. And that this report itself will be transparent for everyone to see, to ask questions about, and to acquire with respect to it its thoroughness."

The Administration will allow Saudi Arabia more time to complete the investigation in order for the United States to have a complete understanding of what happened to Khashoggi.

SECRETARY POMPEO: "I told President Trump this morning that we ought to give them a few more days to complete that so that we too, have a complete understanding of the facts surrounding that. At which point, we can make decisions about how or if the United States should respond to the incident surrounding Mr. Khashoggi."

It is important to remember the strong strategic relationship the United States has had with Saudi Arabia for many decades.

SECRETARY POMPEO: "I think it's important for us all to remember, too, we have a long, since 1932, a long strategic relationship with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They continue to be an important counterterrorism partner. They have custody of the two holy sites. They're an important strategic alliance of the United States. We need to be mindful of that as well."

Turkish President Erdogan confirmed that they were conducting their own independent investigation and would share the results with both the United States and Saudi Arabia.

SECRETARY POMPEO: "When I traveled and met with President Erdogan, he talked to me about the incident. He told me that they were conducting their own investigation. We had a chance to meet with some of the team involved with that. He assured me they would share their results with the Saudis as well."

Both investigations need to be concluded before we can get a clear picture of what happened and who is responsible.

SECRETARY POMPEO: "So we do believe that between these two efforts, a complete picture will emerge for what actually transpired here, and we're working towards that, we're looking forward to that wrapping up quickly and we expect it will be done in that way."

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From: (b)(6)
To: Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA (US); White, Dana W SES OSD (US); Bushman, William SES SD
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WSJ Article Assist
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 6:59:19 PM

Thank you – have everything we needed!

From: Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA (US) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 6:53 PM
To: (b)(6) White, Dana W SES OSD (US)
((b)(6)); Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: WSJ Article Assist

Here you are...

Charlie

Charles E. Summers, Jr.

PDATSD/PA

(b)(6)

Transcript of President Trump's Interview With The Wall Street Journal – 10/24

President discusses U.S.-Saudi relations, the Federal Reserve, the economy, trade and more

President Trump sat down for an interview on Tuesday afternoon in the Oval Office with four members of The Wall Street Journal's White House team: Rebecca Ballhaus, Michael C. Bender, Alex Leary and Peter Nicholas. White House attendees included Bill Shine, the deputy chief of staff for communications, and press secretary Sarah Sanders. Here is the lightly edited transcript of that interview. Small portions of the interview have been excluded from this transcript that were off the record or that have been withheld for future Wall Street Journal articles.

The Wall Street Journal: We wanted to see if we could start with the news of the day. Erdogan in Turkey said today that [Jamal] Khashoggi's death was premeditated murder.

President Trump: Yeah, it's a rough statement.

WSJ: Yeah.

Mr. Trump : Oh, but let me—I'll get this—do you guys want something to drink? Let's let them

move that, yeah. I'm good. I have a glass up there.

WSJ: Based on what you now know, do you believe the Saudi leadership might have some responsibility here for what happened?

Mr. Trump: Well, we have our people coming back as we speak. [CIA director] Gina [Haspel]'s over there and numerous other people. They went to Turkey and they went to Saudi Arabia and they went someplace else. And I'll have a very good idea some time tomorrow evening. They're on the way back now. They're literally on the way back now.

It's a very—it's a very sad situation and, obviously, poorly handled from beginning to end. Certainly is something that never should have been thought of no matter what. It should never have been thought of no matter what the original thought was, and as you know they have many different—there are many different stories as to the original thought. But no matter what, from the least sinister to the most sinister—and the most sinister is really bad. And then certainly the coverup, if that's what it was, which it seems like it was, was very poorly handled. Should have never happened.

WSJ: Does this change your thinking about MBS [Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman] and the Saudi leadership and the U.S. partnership that you've tried to forge with Saudi?

Mr. Trump: Well, I'd rather see the final reports because the real question is, did he know or did he not know at the outset? Not after it took place, but before it took place. And as you know, they're making a very strong statement that they did not know at the high level—at the highest level of Saudi Arabia, and I hope that's—I hope that's going to be the case.

WSJ: You said that it has been poorly handled. It sounds like you think that there have been mistakes made no matter what those final facts are.

Mr. Trump: Well, the biggest mistake was—

WSJ: How should this have been handled?

Mr. Trump: Right. The biggest mistake was doing it in the first place. And—

WSJ: Which piece?

Mr. Trump: Certainly the location was inappropriate, but doing it in the first place was the biggest mistake. Shouldn't have ever been done.

WSJ: Which—what are you referring to—

Mr. Trump: And, you know, I know you guys find this hard to believe I'm saying, but the fact is that—the fact that it was a reporter is terrible. It should have never been done. No, it

shouldn't have even been in the thought process. But then once it was done it was obviously—it was done horribly and it was—it certainly seems to have been covered up horribly.

WSJ: Yeah.

WSJ: When you think—what do you think about the way Turkey has handled the situation? They've been sort of dripping out their intelligence over a period of weeks.

Mr. Trump: Yeah. Yeah.

WSJ: It seems intended to put some pressure on Saudi.

Mr. Trump: It's different, certainly different the way they've handled it. I spoke with [Turkish] President Erdogan yesterday. Now that we have Pastor [Andrew] Brunson back—he was just here, I don't know if you saw.

WSJ: Yeah, I saw.

Mr. Trump: But now that we have Pastor Brunson back, I always had a very—really great relationship with President Erdogan. Then we went a little bit south after that happened, and now we're back. And I had a very good conversation with him yesterday. But they are handling it tough. They're being tough.

WSJ: What about MBS?

Mr. Trump: Which is—which is fine. It's appropriate. Don't forget, it happened in their country.

WSJ: Yeah. Have you talked to MBS? And—

Mr. Trump: Yes.

WSJ: And what have you—what's your message to him, and what has he said?

Mr. Trump: Well, I mean, my message to him—my first question to him was, did you know anything about it, in terms of the initial planning? And he said he did not. And I said, where did this all start? And he said it started at a lower level. So I asked him about it a couple of times in a couple of different ways, and he claims that he did not know that. And, you know, I can't—I can't report or tell you any different story. That's what he says. I mean—

WSJ: Do you believe him?

Mr. Trump: And I also said I think he should issue his own report. You know, they're doing their own study and investigation, and I think they should issue their own report very quickly.

WSJ: Do you believe him? Do you believe the denials?

Mr. Trump: I want to believe him. I really want to believe him. They've been a very good ally. They've been a tremendous investor in our military equipment and other things. They buy tremendous amounts of things from our country. It probably amounts to millions of jobs, you know, a million jobs. That's a lot of jobs. So I certainly want to believe him.

WSJ: If it comes out that he did have some role or some knowledge, do you think he needs to step down?

Mr. Trump: So they're running their own country, and that's a determination for them to make. Certainly it would be a very bad thing in terms of relationship. It would take a while to rebuild. If you look at what they're doing, they've been a very good ally with respect to Iran and with respect to Israel. And it would be a—it would be an—it would be a very, very big change if we—you know, we have a very, very strong and positive thing going on in the Middle East for the first time in many years. Iran is not the same country since I took away the—you know, the—you know, it's a different country. When I first came here, let's say the day before—I'll say the day before I came in, Iran was looking good. They were going to take over everything: Syria, Yemen. They were going for—they were going to take over—who knows where it stopped. And since I've been here and specifically since I did the move that I wanted to do—people asked me not and I gave them a little time, but ultimately they were wrong—but since I've taken—you know, I've terminated that deal, the Iran deal—the Iran nuclear deal, to be specific—since I terminated the deal, they're not the same country. I see it in many different ways. Their economy has crashed. Their currency has crashed. They're having riots every week, big ones, in every city. They're not the same country. They're bringing back soldiers from places that would be unthinkable six months ago or a year ago.

WSJ: Do you have any regrets about supporting MBS? You've worked—Jared's worked closely with him.

Mr. Trump: Yeah.

WSJ: Any regrets about that?

Mr. Trump: Well, Jared never did business with him, by the way, you know. So just so you know.

But you know, they're two young people. They got along well. They didn't see each other. It's a long way away. But it's not a question of regret. I'd be disappointed if this took place.

Now, if you look at Iran, this is—you know, what they do is—take a look at all the people they've killed. I mean, they're the number-one state sponsor of terror in the world.

WSJ: Would this be a—is there any scenario, depending on what happens, what your—what

you investigation shows, that you would consider canceling that arms deal or—

Mr. Trump: So here's what I—here's what I'm going to do. It's a fair question. The Kavanaugh [Supreme Court] hearing was very interesting, and I was given the power to oversee the FBI investigation. I was the one that was supposed to do it, by statute.

And I decided that no matter what I did, if I said let's make it 10 years, the investigation, and let's use every single person in the FBI to do it, people would say, oh, he should do more than that. And what I did is I said I want the Senate to do and whatever they want me to do I will so order. And it went really very flawlessly. You know, and it was well-received because whatever they wanted—if they wanted a week, I gave them a week. They wanted this or they wanted an extension, I would have given them an extension.

And I'm going to do something very similar here. I'm going to give Congress—and you have some very interested people in Congress on both sides. You have people that do not want to lose \$450 billion worth of investment and you have others that think that we should. I disagree with them. But I'm going to let the people in Congress head it along with myself, as opposed to by myself. Because if I do by myself everybody, including the media, no matter what I do, will say, oh, gee, why couldn't you have done this or that.

WSJ: Another thing with Kavanaugh, though, is that you didn't want to put too much time on that. You know, you wanted—

Mr. Trump: That's true. I wanted it speedy. And I could do that.

WSJ: Congress doesn't come back for several weeks.

Mr. Trump: I know. That's true, which is the only thing. You're right. They're out for a little while. But regardless, I just want to do it that way. I think I'm going to do it that way.

WSJ: So if Congress came along and said we want to cancel arms sales, you would go along with that?

Mr. Trump: Well, I would—I would tell them upfront that I think that would be a very foolish thing to do. And then if they came, I would certainly at least think about it. But I think—I think if we do that, we're hurting ourselves much more than we're hurting Saudi Arabia. If we cancel \$450 billion—don't forget, you were on the trip, I think—I went to Saudi Arabia.

WSJ: Oh, not that trip. I was on the Asia trip.

Mr. Trump: It was unbelievable. But I went to Saudi Arabia first, not because of any reason other than I said if I'm going to go first—they wanted me to go there so badly—I would like you, as a sign of good faith, to order a large amount of equipment and other things from the United States that would create jobs, economic development. And we agreed to a number of

\$450 billion. There's never been anything like that. And I put them first on my list. And I really—I like the king. I did speak to the king, too. I don't think the king was involved. I think it's—I don't think—I mean, the king is—I don't feel that the king—the king is involved.

WSJ: How much of the deal has been done?

Mr. Trump: It's—it gets done over a period of time.

WSJ: Do you know where you're at?

Mr. Trump: No, but a lot of—a lot of the contracts were handed out that day. And there were letters of intent and different things. But, Michael, it's a lot. Even if you took it and made it a lot less than that, it's the largest order ever made.

WSJ: Mr. President, you said you're sure you don't believe the king is involved. Are you less certain about the prince?

Mr. Trump: Well, the prince is running things over there more so at this stage. The crown prince—he's running things, and so if anybody were going to be in it would be him. Just my feeling. I spoke with the king. I don't believe—you know, he denied it very, very strongly. I got to know him fairly well. And I don't think he knew about this. And the crown prince denied it equally vociferously, and I hope that he didn't know about it too.

WSJ: And is there any timeline—

Mr. Trump: I think there's a difference if he knows about it or doesn't. Now, he knew about it after it took place, but so did you, so did I.

WSJ: Is there any timeline, like with Kavanaugh, by which you want to have decided what the response will be?

Mr. Trump: No, the only thing is that, you know, Congress is out now for a little while.

WSJ: Right.

Mr. Trump: But we can get them a lot of information. We have a lot of information. We'll get them a lot of information, then we'll make a decision together. Congress would like to be involved in this one.

WSJ: But there's no point by which you want to have made a decision?

Mr. Trump: No, I don't think so. Well, the press is going crazy over this. They're going crazy. Well, it's a whole—it's a—it's a potentially a very brutal story, depending on the way it all happened.

WSJ: Has your intelligence team reviewed any audio or video or sort of the things that have been talked about?

Mr. Trump: I'd rather report to you in a day or two because they're all coming back now.

WSJ: Have they given you any preliminary reports on what they've seen and heard?

Mr. Trump: They have a lot of information. I actually said don't give it to me on the phone. I don't want it on the phone. As good as these phones are supposed to be — (laughter)—

WSJ: We do want to make a ton of news on this interview, Mr. President, so we'll move on in a second. But just one more on Saudi. You said during the campaign trail you thought Saudi was mostly responsible for 9/11. Do you still feel that way?

Mr. Trump: On what? On the what?

WSJ: For the terrorist attacks on 9/11.

Mr. Trump: Well, I said before I was president that was—

WSJ: Do you still believe—yeah, that was from the campaign trail.

Mr. Trump: I mean, you had, what, 18 people and I think, 17—whatever it is. Only one didn't. Well, I—that's right. And I was always critical of President Bush for attacking Iraq. I said, Iraq did not knock down the World Trade Center. They came out of Saudi Arabia. And they went to —they went to Afghanistan. But out of the 15—

WSJ: Nineteen hijackers, 15 were Saudi nationals.

Mr. Trump: It was 19 and 18. Oh, was it 15? OK. Whatever. It was a vast—you know, so out of 19, 14 were Saudi.

WSJ: Fifteen, yeah.

Mr. Trump: Fifteen were Saudi.

WSJ: So what responsibility does Saudi Arabia have for maintaining this relationship?

Mr. Trump: And that's what's reported now, I assume. But I assume that's been the number we're hearing, 15—15 out of the 19, yeah. Say it again?

WSJ: Then what—just to wrap this up a little bit, what responsibility does Saudi Arabia have for maintaining this relationship? I mean, as long as it gives—as long as it is willing to invest tens of billions of dollars, is that good enough?

Mr. Trump: Oh, I think they have. I think they have—Well, they have a very big relationship to

maintaining the relationship. Don't forget, if it wasn't for us, it could very well be that Saudi Arabia wouldn't last very long. I've been saying that. I've asked in a very strong fashion—before this happened — I've asked Saudi Arabia to pay us a tremendous amount of money for defense. We're defending Saudi Arabia. They have—they're a vastly wealthy country, and we're defending them, and we're not being reimbursed for our costs. A very small percentage is being reimbursed. And I've told them — and other countries—this is no secret. I've been saying this to a lot of people. But there are other countries that are very wealthy.

You know, it's one thing if we're defending somebody, a country that's really being horribly harmed and—that's one thing—and doesn't have economic strength. But, you know, we defend countries that are immensely wealthy, and then don't ask for anything—then don't ask for anything. So that's the story—we can't have that.

WSJ: Taxes. Your middle-class tax cut, can you say a little bit about where that came from?

Mr. Trump: This is a resolution. Well, this—I've been working on this with Kevin Brady for a long time. And because we're doing so well—we couldn't have done this originally. I would have put it into the original bill. But we couldn't have done it originally because we—you know, we've become—I mean, we're doing really well. The numbers are really good.

WSJ: How are you going to define middle class?

Mr. Trump: Well, we'll define it. We'll have to—we'll have to define that. I mean, there is a definition, but we'll make sure the definition is right.

WSJ: Do you have any thoughts on where that should be?

Mr. Trump: This would not be for business. Now, this would be in addition, because the middle class did very well with the original bill. I would have put this into the original bill, but at that time nobody thought we would do as well as we're doing—you know, the 4.2 [percent second-quarter GDP growth] and it looks like we're going to have another good quarter coming up.

WSJ: Then why need it? Why do you need this one, then?

Mr. Trump: Because I think it's a good thing for the middle class. And don't forget, that's money that gets distributed back into the economy. In a different way than a business would do it, but it's money distributed back into the economy. And we are going to do—we're doing very well.

WSJ: Do you have any idea where that—should the cutoff be for the middle class?

Mr. Trump: No, I just—we're going to a 10%. No, that'll be—that'll be—will be a great thing for the middle class. I think the middle class deserves it. The middle class has been forgotten for

many, many years. I call it the forgotten men and women. They came out, and they like Trump. But the fact is the middle class has been forgotten for many years. And what we're going to do—this would be a resolution, because they're out, but we're doing the resolution now.

WSJ: We can't do the resolution till they get back.

Mr. Trump: They have to—when they get back, we'll do the actual filings.

WSJ: And how is this going to be revenue neutral? You mentioned in the pool spray—

Mr. Trump: We have a way. We're going to—we're going to announce it at that time, but we think we can make it revenue neutral based on certain—

WSJ: Wall Street Journal readers would really like to know.

Mr. Trump: In fact, if you call Kevin Hassett, let him tell you, because I was going over it. Kevin will give it to you. You know Kevin very well.

WSJ: Yeah.

Mr. Trump: And this is money that comes back, because it's money that's going to be spent on buying cars—hopefully cars made in the U.S.A., by the way—but it's going to be spent on things that we make and sell in the United States.

WSJ: Right now, three weeks ahead of the election, where we're at; the economy, as you say, there's a lot of positive signs. What are the biggest risks right now for the—

Mr. Trump: The Fed.

WSJ: The Fed?

Mr. Trump: To me, the Fed is the biggest risk because I think that—I think interest rates are being raised too quickly. I think, to me, the biggest risk is the Fed, because my trade deals are great deals. And the tariffs—you saw what I put out today on the tariffs, I guess, did you see I put out a little social media. We have a lot of money coming into this country, people don't realize. And ultimately, I'll use it to negotiate. And if they don't negotiate a free—don't forget, they wouldn't even meet with President Obama, Europe and these other countries. They wouldn't even meet. You know, the European Union wouldn't even meet. They said, we are very happy with the deal. Well, I'm not happy with the deal. And if they don't do the right thing, I'll put tariffs on the cars. And if they do, there won't be any tariffs. And tariffs are a great negotiating—now, tariffs essentially ended in 1913, and the country was rich. If you read some of McKinley's speeches, they were very interesting. He talked about we will not allow the outsider to come in and take our wealth from us without having to pay.

Mr. Trump: I could never have done it [renegotiated Nafta] without tariffs. Without tariffs I could have never made the deal.

WSJ: OK.

Mr. Trump: No, because I said, look, fellows, I say that—I say that all the time. I have nothing to hide. If I put tariffs on cars coming in from the European Union—Mercedes Benzes, you know, the BMWs, all of them; millions of cars pouring in. If I put a 25% or a 20% tariff on those cars, the money would be staggering that we would take in.

They wouldn't meet with Obama, the European Union. Japan wouldn't meet with Obama. And they wouldn't meet with us either. After a few months I said, all right, that's all right. So I called them up. I said, listen, we don't have to meet with you anymore; we're just going to put tariffs on your cars coming in. They were in my office the next day.

WSJ: A lot of people say that tariffs are really the biggest threat to the economy long term.

Mr. Trump: We don't have any tariffs.

WSJ: But you're saying it's the Fed.

Mr. Trump: It's so much nonsense, OK. This is your story. We don't even have tariffs. I'm using tariffs to negotiate. I mean, other than some tariffs on steel—which is actually small, what do we have? I didn't put them on the USMCA. We have a trade deal. I didn't put them on in South Korea. We have a trade deal. That was the worst deal. That was a deal made by Hillary Clinton. It was a horrible deal. We made it into a sound deal.

But I didn't put tariffs. Where do we have tariffs? We don't have tariffs anywhere. I read that today: We're worried about the tariffs. You know what happens? A business that's doing badly always likes to blame Trump and the tariffs because it's a good excuse for some incompetent guy that's making \$25 million a year.

WSJ: Just to go back to the Fed for a second—

Mr. Trump: But think of it, Michael. We don't have tariffs. Where do we have tariffs? I'm talking tariffs. I'll use tariffs. I mean it. I've said I was going to put tariffs on European Union cars, right? They came to my office. We made the concept of a deal. We'll see what happens. But they agreed to a deal that they wouldn't even talk about. There's no tariffs.

WSJ: So—sorry—if you think the Fed is the biggest risk, though, are there circumstances where you would consider trying to remove the chair?

Mr. Trump: I don't know. I'm just saying this. I'm very unhappy with the Fed, because Obama had zero interest rates and I have almost normalized—and maybe normalized, depending on

who you're talking to—interest rates. You give me zero interest rates and you show me my numbers with zero interest rates. He had phony numbers because it was based on zero interest. Well, you know, he had—he had zero interest.

Plus, Obama took something where there was a lot more provision—you know, there was a lot more potential for gain because, you know, it was at the bottom of a cycle. But forget that. Obama had zero interest rates. A very great guy last week was saying, 'If you give—if you take what Trump has done and you leave interest rates where they were when I took over, we'd have the greatest—well, we already do; we already have—but we'd have the greatest economy in history.'

WSJ: And why not talk to Powell about those frustrations? Have people told you not to?

Mr. Trump: Because in theory he's supposed to be independent. But I'm not happy with what he's doing at all.

WSJ: Do you regret hiring him?

Mr. Trump: And it almost looks like he's happy raising interest rates.

WSJ: What do you mean?

Mr. Trump: I just don't like what he's doing. And I will let—I will let him know through you because I leave him be, independent.

WSJ: Yeah. How is he supposed to interpret these? Because you said it's supposed to be independent.

Mr. Trump: It's supposed to be interpreted. He can interpret it anyway he wants. I'm just telling you I've done very well with instinct. My instinct is that he's raising it too much. When we make—when we—every time we do something great, he raises the interest rates. We do great. How the hell do you compete with that? And Obama—remember, this is very important—Obama had zero interest. He had—

WSJ: Why do you think he's doing that?

Mr. Trump: He was supposed to be a low-interest-rate guy. It's turned out that he's not.

WSJ: Knowing how he's behaved, would you have picked somebody else, in retrospect?

Mr. Trump: Too early to say, but maybe.

WSJ: What level of action from him would it take for you to step up—

Mr. Trump: Well, there'll be a point when I would have to find out. Look, there are a lot of

people that agree with me, just so we understand, you know. I read them all. I read everybody. There are a lot of people that agree with me.

So I have a hot economy going. Every time we do something, he raises rates. Now, what does that do? That means we pay more on debt, right? That means we pay more on debt and we slow down the economy, both bad things.

Now, when there's inflation, which there's not of any consequence, I'm all for it. I'd even do it more. I'd rather do it slower and heavier, at a later date, if we need it. But the point is that you give—you give me the interest rates that President Obama was paying—anybody can do that with zero interest. But we're paying almost a normalized rate. Some people think we're paying a normalized rate. How many increases has he had? Five already? Five? Five. Five increases.

WSJ: Do you think—

Mr. Trump: So we had a good quarter.

STAFF: One more question.

Mr. Trump: We had a good quarter. We're making, boom, and we have an interest-rate hike. So I like him as a person. I am not—I disagree with him as to the raising of the rates. What I'd rather do is keep the rates low and pay amortization.

WSJ: I know we're running short on time here. I had a few things—

Mr. Trump: Well, let me just say, because to me that's maybe the most important. I would like to see the rates be low and pay amortization, pay off debt. And when he keeps raising interest rates, you can't do that.

WSJ: I think you were about to express what level of action from him would it take for you—

Mr. Trump: No level of action right now. But all I'm saying is that I would like to pay—I would like to have interest rates low and I'd like to pay off debt. But you can't pay off debt when he keeps raising the interest rates. I mean, we had a case where he raised the interest rates right before we have a bond offering. So you have a bond offering and you have somebody raising interest rates, so you end up paying more on the bonds. Now you tell me, does that—does that make sense? To me it doesn't make sense. You understand what I'm saying, Michael, right? With that being said, I'm not happy, and that's my only expression. It's the only thing I can tell you.

What I'd like to see is the interest rate be lower, and I'd like to form the rest of it in the form of amortization, and even more than the combination of interest rate plus amortization. I'd like to—plus the gap. I'd like to pay amortization and start reducing debt. But how do you do that when he keeps raising interest rates on you? I'd like to let all of that interest that he's

raising pay off debt, and we could do that. We'd pay off a lot of debt.

STAFF: Sir, your next meeting is here, so maybe you guys—

Mr. Trump: OK.

STAFF:—have one last question.

Mr. Trump: So with all the—I'm not doing anything. I'm independent. But I'm allowed to say what I think. That's what I think. I think he's making a mistake. I want to pay amortization. You can't pay amortization when he's raising interest rates, OK?

WSJ: I wanted to ask you—

Mr. Trump: To the extent that they're raising them.

WSJ: I just wanted to ask you, before we have to go, about your former lawyer, Michael Cohen. He—

Mr. Trump: About who?

WSJ: About Michael Cohen, your former lawyer. He said that you ordered him to arrange these payments during the 2016 campaign.

Mr. Trump: I've discussed that so much. Nobody cares about that.

WSJ: But do you feel betrayed by your former lawyer—

Mr. Trump: Well, he's not allowed.

WSJ:—that he's now turning on you?

Mr. Trump: I mean, he's a lawyer. He's got tremendous legal liability. He's a lawyer. It's unthinkable that a lawyer would tape a client, that a lawyer would make statements to—he's got tremendous legal liability. He shouldn't do that.

Yeah, I'm surprised that he did it, but one of those things. But that a lawyer would tape a client, that a lawyer would make statements to people, he's not allowed to do that legally.

WSJ: And you're saying—

Mr. Trump: He's got—he's got—all I can say is he's got tremendous legal liability for doing that.

WSJ: And you're saying you never discussed any of these payments with him during the campaign—

Mr. Trump: I've made all the statements.

WSJ:—that he did it.

Mr. Trump: Why do I have to say it again? I'm just saying a lawyer can't do that. Now, he represented me on very small things. He was like a public-relations person. But he was also a lawyer. A lawyer can't do that. Can you imagine a lawyer taping a client? I've seen lawyers that are very tough, very smart. They've told me, they've said they've never heard of that before. They've never even heard of it.

WSJ: What was your reaction when you found out that he had decided—

Mr. Trump: I was surprised.

WSJ:—to make this payment?

Mr. Trump: I was surprised. Who knew? Anybody would be surprised. Now, of the tapes, there was one tape and that—it was a meaningless tape. There were many other tapes, though. He taped many, many people. He was taping many people. Hey, I wasn't his only client. He was—you know, he had clients. He had a lot of clients, I guess, over the years.

The other thing is—this wasn't me. This was having to do with the taxi industry or something. But he has—and financing, but nothing to do with me. But for a lawyer to tape a client is unthinkable. I've dealt with—I've spoken to lawyers that were tough people, that have seen it all. They'd never heard of that one. But remember this, that the one little tape, but he also taped many other people—many, many people.

WSJ: Many, yeah. Were you angry?

Mr. Trump: And those tapes, as I've heard, are unbelievably complimentary to me.

WSJ: I've heard that too.

STAFF: We've got to go.

WSJ: Were you angry when you found out that he had made—

Mr. Trump: OK. Well, wait a minute, that's a big point. But, you know, they're unbelievable. OK, so this is used in writing.

WSJ: Yeah.

Mr. Trump: I don't want to hear it on the radio or anything.

WSJ: No.

Mr. Trump: We'll do it again, Michael.

end

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 5:43 PM

To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6) Bushman, William SES SD

(b)(6) Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA (US)

(b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6)

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Subject: WSJ Article Assist

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<https://www.wsj.com/articles/transcript-of-president-trumps-interview-with-the-wall-street-journal-1540388205>

From: Bushman, William SES SD
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Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US); Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA (US); (b)(6)
Subject: RE: WSJ Article Assist
Date: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 5:59:45 PM

Super. Thanks, all.

William G. Bushman

Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense

(b)(6)

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 5:56 PM
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(b)(6) OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
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Transcript of President Trump's Interview With The Wall Street Journal – 10/24
President discusses U.S.-Saudi relations, the Federal Reserve, the economy, trade and more

President Trump sat down for an interview on Tuesday afternoon in the Oval Office with four members of The Wall Street Journal's White House team: Rebecca Ballhaus, Michael C. Bender, Alex Leary and Peter Nicholas. White House attendees included Bill Shine, the deputy chief of staff for communications, and press secretary Sarah Sanders. Here is the lightly edited transcript of that interview. Small portions of the interview have been excluded from this transcript that were off the record or that have been withheld for future Wall Street Journal articles.

The Wall Street Journal: We wanted to see if we could start with the news of the day. Erdogan in Turkey said today that [Jamal] Khashoggi's death was premeditated murder.

President Trump: Yeah, it's a rough statement.

WSJ: Yeah.

Mr. Trump : Oh, but let me—I'll get this—do you guys want something to drink? Let's let them move that, yeah. I'm good. I have a glass up there.

WSJ: Based on what you now know, do you believe the Saudi leadership might have some responsibility here for what happened?

Mr. Trump: Well, we have our people coming back as we speak. [CIA director] Gina [Haspel]'s over there and numerous other people. They went to Turkey and they went to Saudi

Arabia and they went someplace else. And I'll have a very good idea some time tomorrow evening. They're on the way back now. They're literally on the way back now.

It's a very—it's a very sad situation and, obviously, poorly handled from beginning to end. Certainly is something that never should have been thought of no matter what. It should never have been thought of no matter what the original thought was, and as you know they have many different—there are many different stories as to the original thought. But no matter what, from the least sinister to the most sinister—and the most sinister is really bad. And then certainly the coverup, if that's what it was, which it seems like it was, was very poorly handled. Should have never happened.

WSJ: Does this change your thinking about MBS [Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman] and the Saudi leadership and the U.S. partnership that you've tried to forge with Saudi?

Mr. Trump: Well, I'd rather see the final reports because the real question is, did he know or did he not know at the outset? Not after it took place, but before it took place. And as you know, they're making a very strong statement that they did not know at the high level—at the highest level of Saudi Arabia, and I hope that's—I hope that's going to be the case.

WSJ: You said that it has been poorly handled. It sounds like you think that there have been mistakes made no matter what those final facts are.

Mr. Trump: Well, the biggest mistake was—

WSJ: How should this have been handled?

Mr. Trump: Right. The biggest mistake was doing it in the first place. And—

WSJ: Which piece?

Mr. Trump: Certainly the location was inappropriate, but doing it in the first place was the biggest mistake. Shouldn't have ever been done.

WSJ: Which—what are you referring to—

Mr. Trump: And, you know, I know you guys find this hard to believe I'm saying, but the fact is that—the fact that it was a reporter is terrible. It should have never been done. No, it shouldn't have even been in the thought process. But then once it was done it was obviously—it was done horribly and it was—it certainly seems to have been covered up horribly.

WSJ: Yeah.

WSJ: When you think—what do you think about the way Turkey has handled the situation? They've been sort of dripping out their intelligence over a period of weeks.

Mr. Trump: Yeah. Yeah.

WSJ: It seems intended to put some pressure on Saudi.

Mr. Trump: It's different, certainly different the way they've handled it. I spoke with [Turkish President Erdogan yesterday. Now that we have Pastor [Andrew] Brunson back—he was just here, I don't know if you saw.

WSJ: Yeah, I saw.

Mr. Trump: But now that we have Pastor Brunson back, I always had a very—really great relationship with President Erdogan. Then we went a little bit south after that happened, and now we're back. And I had a very good conversation with him yesterday. But they are handling it tough. They're being tough.

WSJ: What about MBS?

Mr. Trump: Which is—which is fine. It's appropriate. Don't forget, it happened in their country.

WSJ: Yeah. Have you talked to MBS? And—

Mr. Trump: Yes.

WSJ: And what have you—what's your message to him, and what has he said?

Mr. Trump: Well, I mean, my message to him—my first question to him was, did you know anything about it, in terms of the initial planning? And he said he did not. And I said, where did this all start? And he said it started at a lower level. So I asked him about it a couple of times in a couple of different ways, and he claims that he did not know that. And, you know, I can't—I can't report or tell you any different story. That's what he says. I mean—

WSJ: Do you believe him?

Mr. Trump: And I also said I think he should issue his own report. You know, they're doing their own study and investigation, and I think they should issue their own report very quickly.

WSJ: Do you believe him? Do you believe the denials?

Mr. Trump: I want to believe him. I really want to believe him. They've been a very good ally. They've been a tremendous investor in our military equipment and other things. They buy tremendous amounts of things from our country. It probably amounts to millions of jobs, you know, a million jobs. That's a lot of jobs. So I certainly want to believe him.

WSJ: If it comes out that he did have some role or some knowledge, do you think he needs to step down?

Mr. Trump: So they're running their own country, and that's a determination for them to make. Certainly it would be a very bad thing in terms of relationship. It would take a while to rebuild. If you look at what they're doing, they've been a very good ally with respect to Iran and with respect to Israel. And it would be a—it would be an—it would be a very, very big change if we—you know, we have a very, very strong and positive thing going on in the Middle East for the first time in many years. Iran is not the same country since I took away the—you know, the—you know, it's a different country. When I first came here, let's say the day

before—I'll say the day before I came in, Iran was looking good. They were going to take over everything: Syria, Yemen. They were going for—they were going to take over—who knows where it stopped. And since I've been here and specifically since I did the move that I wanted to do—people asked me not and I gave them a little time, but ultimately they were wrong—but since I've taken—you know, I've terminated that deal, the Iran deal—the Iran nuclear deal, to be specific—since I terminated the deal, they're not the same country. I see it in many different ways. Their economy has crashed. Their currency has crashed. They're having riots every week, big ones, in every city. They're not the same country. They're bringing back soldiers from places that would be unthinkable six months ago or a year ago.

WSJ: Do you have any regrets about supporting MBS? You've worked—Jared's worked closely with him.

Mr. Trump: Yeah.

WSJ: Any regrets about that?

Mr. Trump: Well, Jared never did business with him, by the way, you know. So just so you know.

But you know, they're two young people. They got along well. They didn't see each other. It's a long way away. But it's not a question of regret. I'd be disappointed if this took place.

Now, if you look at Iran, this is—you know, what they do is—take a look at all the people they've killed. I mean, they're the number-one state sponsor of terror in the world.

WSJ: Would this be a—is there any scenario, depending on what happens, what your—what you investigation shows, that you would consider canceling that arms deal or—

Mr. Trump: So here's what I—here's what I'm going to do. It's a fair question. The Kavanaugh [Supreme Court] hearing was very interesting, and I was given the power to oversee the FBI investigation. I was the one that was supposed to do it, by statute.

And I decided that no matter what I did, if I said let's make it 10 years, the investigation, and let's use every single person in the FBI to do it, people would say, oh, he should do more than that. And what I did is I said I want the Senate to do and whatever they want me to do I will so order. And it went really very flawlessly. You know, and it was well-received because whatever they wanted—if they wanted a week, I gave them a week. They wanted this or they wanted an extension, I would have given them an extension.

And I'm going to do something very similar here. I'm going to give Congress—and you have some very interested people in Congress on both sides. You have people that do not want to lose \$450 billion worth of investment and you have others that think that we should. I disagree with them. But I'm going to let the people in Congress head it along with myself, as opposed to by myself. Because if I do by myself everybody, including the media, no matter what I do, will say, oh, gee, why couldn't you have done this or that.

WSJ: Another thing with Kavanaugh, though, is that you didn't want to put too much time on that. You know, you wanted—

Mr. Trump: That's true. I wanted it speedy. And I could do that.

WSJ: Congress doesn't come back for several weeks.

Mr. Trump: I know. That's true, which is the only thing. You're right. They're out for a little while. But regardless, I just want to do it that way. I think I'm going to do it that way.

WSJ: So if Congress came along and said we want to cancel arms sales, you would go along with that?

Mr. Trump: Well, I would—I would tell them upfront that I think that would be a very foolish thing to do. And then if they came, I would certainly at least think about it. But I think—I think if we do that, we're hurting ourselves much more than we're hurting Saudi Arabia. If we cancel \$450 billion—don't forget, you were on the trip, I think—I went to Saudi Arabia.

WSJ: Oh, not that trip. I was on the Asia trip.

Mr. Trump: It was unbelievable. But I went to Saudi Arabia first, not because of any reason other than I said if I'm going to go first—they wanted me to go there so badly—I would like you, as a sign of good faith, to order a large amount of equipment and other things from the United States that would create jobs, economic development. And we agreed to a number of \$450 billion. There's never been anything like that. And I put them first on my list. And I really—I like the king. I did speak to the king, too. I don't think the king was involved. I think it's—I don't think—I mean, the king is—I don't feel that the king—the king is involved.

WSJ: How much of the deal has been done?

Mr. Trump: It's—it gets done over a period of time.

WSJ: Do you know where you're at?

Mr. Trump: No, but a lot of—a lot of the contracts were handed out that day. And there were letters of intent and different things. But, Michael, it's a lot. Even if you took it and made it a lot less than that, it's the largest order ever made.

WSJ: Mr. President, you said you're sure you don't believe the king is involved. Are you less certain about the prince?

Mr. Trump: Well, the prince is running things over there more so at this stage. The crown prince—he's running things, and so if anybody were going to be in it would be him. Just my feeling. I spoke with the king. I don't believe—you know, he denied it very, very strongly. I got to know him fairly well. And I don't think he knew about this. And the crown prince denied it equally vociferously, and I hope that he didn't know about it too.

WSJ: And is there any timeline—

Mr. Trump: I think there's a difference if he knows about it or doesn't. Now, he knew about it after it took place, but so did you, so did I.

WSJ: Is there any timeline, like with Kavanaugh, by which you want to have decided what the

response will be?

Mr. Trump: No, the only thing is that, you know, Congress is out now for a little while.

WSJ: Right.

Mr. Trump: But we can get them a lot of information. We have a lot of information. We'll get them a lot of information, then we'll make a decision together. Congress would like to be involved in this one.

WSJ: But there's no point by which you want to have made a decision?

Mr. Trump: No, I don't think so. Well, the press is going crazy over this. They're going crazy. Well, it's a whole—it's a—it's a potentially a very brutal story, depending on the way it all happened.

WSJ: Has your intelligence team reviewed any audio or video or sort of the things that have been talked about?

Mr. Trump: I'd rather report to you in a day or two because they're all coming back now.

WSJ: Have they given you any preliminary reports on what they've seen and heard?

Mr. Trump: They have a lot of information. I actually said don't give it to me on the phone. I don't want it on the phone. As good as these phones are supposed to be — (laughter)—

WSJ: We do want to make a ton of news on this interview, Mr. President, so we'll move on in a second. But just one more on Saudi. You said during the campaign trail you thought Saudi was mostly responsible for 9/11. Do you still feel that way?

Mr. Trump: On what? On the what?

WSJ: For the terrorist attacks on 9/11.

Mr. Trump: Well, I said before I was president that was—

WSJ: Do you still believe—yeah, that was from the campaign trail.

Mr. Trump: I mean, you had, what, 18 people and I think, 17—whatever it is. Only one didn't. Well, I—that's right. And I was always critical of President Bush for attacking Iraq. I said, Iraq did not knock down the World Trade Center. They came out of Saudi Arabia. And they went to—they went to Afghanistan. But out of the 15—

WSJ: Nineteen hijackers, 15 were Saudi nationals.

Mr. Trump: It was 19 and 18. Oh, was it 15? OK. Whatever. It was a vast—you know, so out of 19, 14 were Saudi.

WSJ: Fifteen, yeah.

Mr. Trump: Fifteen were Saudi.

WSJ: So what responsibility does Saudi Arabia have for maintaining this relationship?

Mr. Trump: And that's what's reported now, I assume. But I assume that's been the number we're hearing, 15—15 out of the 19, yeah. Say it again?

WSJ: Then what—just to wrap this up a little bit, what responsibility does Saudi Arabia have for maintaining this relationship? I mean, as long as it gives—as long as it is willing to invest tens of billions of dollars, is that good enough?

Mr. Trump: Oh, I think they have. I think they have—Well, they have a very big relationship to maintaining the relationship. Don't forget, if it wasn't for us, it could very well be that Saudi Arabia wouldn't last very long. I've been saying that. I've asked in a very strong fashion—before this happened—I've asked Saudi Arabia to pay us a tremendous amount of money for defense. We're defending Saudi Arabia. They have—they're a vastly wealthy country, and we're defending them, and we're not being reimbursed for our costs. A very small percentage is being reimbursed. And I've told them—and other countries—this is no secret. I've been saying this to a lot of people. But there are other countries that are very wealthy.

You know, it's one thing if we're defending somebody, a country that's really being horribly harmed and—that's one thing—and doesn't have economic strength. But, you know, we defend countries that are immensely wealthy, and then don't ask for anything—then don't ask for anything. So that's the story—we can't have that.

WSJ: Taxes. Your middle-class tax cut, can you say a little bit about where that came from?

Mr. Trump: This is a resolution. Well, this—I've been working on this with Kevin Brady for a long time. And because we're doing so well—we couldn't have done this originally. I would have put it into the original bill. But we couldn't have done it originally because we—you know, we've become—I mean, we're doing really well. The numbers are really good.

WSJ: How are you going to define middle class?

Mr. Trump: Well, we'll define it. We'll have to—we'll have to define that. I mean, there is a definition, but we'll make sure the definition is right.

WSJ: Do you have any thoughts on where that should be?

Mr. Trump: This would not be for business. Now, this would be in addition, because the middle class did very well with the original bill. I would have put this into the original bill, but at that time nobody thought we would do as well as we're doing—you know, the 4.2 [percent second-quarter GDP growth] and it looks like we're going to have another good quarter coming up.

WSJ: Then why need it? Why do you need this one, then?

Mr. Trump: Because I think it's a good thing for the middle class. And don't forget, that's money that gets distributed back into the economy. In a different way than a business would do it, but it's money distributed back into the economy. And we are going to do—we're doing

very well.

WSJ: Do you have any idea where that—should the cutoff be for the middle class?

Mr. Trump: No, I just—we're going to a 10%. No, that'll be—that'll be—will be a great thing for the middle class. I think the middle class deserves it. The middle class has been forgotten for many, many years. I call it the forgotten men and women. They came out, and they like Trump. But the fact is the middle class has been forgotten for many years. And what we're going to do—this would be a resolution, because they're out, but we're doing the resolution now.

WSJ: We can't do the resolution till they get back.

Mr. Trump: They have to—when they get back, we'll do the actual filings.

WSJ: And how is this going to be revenue neutral? You mentioned in the pool spray—

Mr. Trump: We have a way. We're going to—we're going to announce it at that time, but we think we can make it revenue neutral based on certain—

WSJ: Wall Street Journal readers would really like to know.

Mr. Trump: In fact, if you call Kevin Hassett, let him tell you, because I was going over it. Kevin will give it to you. You know Kevin very well.

WSJ: Yeah.

Mr. Trump: And this is money that comes back, because it's money that's going to be spent on buying cars—hopefully cars made in the U.S.A., by the way—but it's going to be spent on things that we make and sell in the United States.

WSJ: Right now, three weeks ahead of the election, where we're at; the economy, as you say, there's a lot of positive signs. What are the biggest risks right now for the—

Mr. Trump: The Fed.

WSJ: The Fed?

Mr. Trump: To me, the Fed is the biggest risk because I think that—I think interest rates are being raised too quickly. I think, to me, the biggest risk is the Fed, because my trade deals are great deals. And the tariffs—you saw what I put out today on the tariffs, I guess, did you see I put out a little social media. We have a lot of money coming into this country, people don't realize. And ultimately, I'll use it to negotiate. And if they don't negotiate a free—don't forget, they wouldn't even meet with President Obama, Europe and these other countries. They wouldn't even meet. You know, the European Union wouldn't even meet. They said, we are very happy with the deal. Well, I'm not happy with the deal. And if they don't do the right thing, I'll put tariffs on the cars. And if they do, there won't be any tariffs. And tariffs are a great negotiating—now, tariffs essentially ended in 1913, and the country was rich. If you read some of McKinley's speeches, they were very interesting. He talked about we will not allow the outsider to come in and take our wealth from us without having to pay.

Mr. Trump: I could never have done it [renegotiated Nafta] without tariffs. Without tariffs I could have never made the deal.

WSJ: OK.

Mr. Trump: No, because I said, look, fellows, I say that—I say that all the time. I have nothing to hide. If I put tariffs on cars coming in from the European Union—Mercedes Benzes, you know, the BMWs, all of them; millions of cars pouring in. If I put a 25% or a 20% tariff on those cars, the money would be staggering that we would take in.

They wouldn't meet with Obama, the European Union. Japan wouldn't meet with Obama. And they wouldn't meet with us either. After a few months I said, all right, that's all right. So I called them up. I said, listen, we don't have to meet with you anymore; we're just going to put tariffs on your cars coming in. They were in my office the next day.

WSJ: A lot of people say that tariffs are really the biggest threat to the economy long term.

Mr. Trump: We don't have any tariffs.

WSJ: But you're saying it's the Fed.

Mr. Trump: It's so much nonsense, OK. This is your story. We don't even have tariffs. I'm using tariffs to negotiate. I mean, other than some tariffs on steel—which is actually small, what do we have? I didn't put them on the USMCA. We have a trade deal. I didn't put them on in South Korea. We have a trade deal. That was the worst deal. That was a deal made by Hillary Clinton. It was a horrible deal. We made it into a sound deal.

But I didn't put tariffs. Where do we have tariffs? We don't have tariffs anywhere. I read that today: We're worried about the tariffs. You know what happens? A business that's doing badly always likes to blame Trump and the tariffs because it's a good excuse for some incompetent guy that's making \$25 million a year.

WSJ: Just to go back to the Fed for a second—

Mr. Trump: But think of it, Michael. We don't have tariffs. Where do we have tariffs? I'm talking tariffs. I'll use tariffs. I mean it. I've said I was going to put tariffs on European Union cars, right? They came to my office. We made the concept of a deal. We'll see what happens. But they agreed to a deal that they wouldn't even talk about. There's no tariffs.

WSJ: So—sorry—if you think the Fed is the biggest risk, though, are there circumstances where you would consider trying to remove the chair?

Mr. Trump: I don't know. I'm just saying this. I'm very unhappy with the Fed, because Obama had zero interest rates and I have almost normalized—and maybe normalized, depending on who you're talking to—interest rates. You give me zero interest rates and you show me my numbers with zero interest rates. He had phony numbers because it was based on zero interest. Well, you know, he had—he had zero interest.

Plus, Obama took something where there was a lot more provision—you know, there was a lot

more potential for gain because, you know, it was at the bottom of a cycle. But forget that. Obama had zero interest rates. A very great guy last week was saying, 'If you give—if you take what Trump has done and you leave interest rates where they were when I took over, we'd have the greatest—well, we already do; we already have—but we'd have the greatest economy in history.'

WSJ: And why not talk to Powell about those frustrations? Have people told you not to?

Mr. Trump: Because in theory he's supposed to be independent. But I'm not happy with what he's doing at all.

WSJ: Do you regret hiring him?

Mr. Trump: And it almost looks like he's happy raising interest rates.

WSJ: What do you mean?

Mr. Trump: I just don't like what he's doing. And I will let—I will let him know through you because I leave him be, independent.

WSJ: Yeah. How is he supposed to interpret these? Because you said it's supposed to be independent.

Mr. Trump: It's supposed to be interpreted. He can interpret it anyway he wants. I'm just telling you I've done very well with instinct. My instinct is that he's raising it too much. When we make—when we—every time we do something great, he raises the interest rates. We do great. How the hell do you compete with that? And Obama—remember, this is very important—Obama had zero interest. He had—

WSJ: Why do you think he's doing that?

Mr. Trump: He was supposed to be a low-interest-rate guy. It's turned out that he's not.

WSJ: Knowing how he's behaved, would you have picked somebody else, in retrospect?

Mr. Trump: Too early to say, but maybe.

WSJ: What level of action from him would it take for you to step up—

Mr. Trump: Well, there'll be a point when I would have to find out. Look, there are a lot of people that agree with me, just so we understand, you know. I read them all. I read everybody. There are a lot of people that agree with me.

So I have a hot economy going. Every time we do something, he raises rates. Now, what does that do? That means we pay more on debt, right? That means we pay more on debt and we slow down the economy, both bad things.

Now, when there's inflation, which there's not of any consequence, I'm all for it. I'd even do it more. I'd rather do it slower and heavier, at a later date, if we need it. But the point is that you give—you give me the interest rates that President Obama was paying—anybody can do that

with zero interest. But we're paying almost a normalized rate. Some people think we're paying a normalized rate. How many increases has he had? Five already? Five? Five. Five increases.

WSJ: Do you think—

Mr. Trump: So we had a good quarter.

STAFF: One more question.

Mr. Trump: We had a good quarter. We're making, boom, and we have an interest-rate hike. So I like him as a person. I am not—I disagree with him as to the raising of the rates. What I'd rather do is keep the rates low and pay amortization.

WSJ: I know we're running short on time here. I had a few things—

Mr. Trump: Well, let me just say, because to me that's maybe the most important. I would like to see the rates be low and pay amortization, pay off debt. And when he keeps raising interest rates, you can't do that.

WSJ: I think you were about to express what level of action from him would it take for you—

Mr. Trump: No level of action right now. But all I'm saying is that I would like to pay—I would like to have interest rates low and I'd like to pay off debt. But you can't pay off debt when he keeps raising the interest rates. I mean, we had a case where he raised the interest rates right before we have a bond offering. So you have a bond offering and you have somebody raising interest rates, so you end up paying more on the bonds. Now you tell me, does that—does that make sense? To me it doesn't make sense. You understand what I'm saying, Michael, right? With that being said, I'm not happy, and that's my only expression. It's the only thing I can tell you.

What I'd like to see is the interest rate be lower, and I'd like to form the rest of it in the form of amortization, and even more than the combination of interest rate plus amortization. I'd like to —plus the gap. I'd like to pay amortization and start reducing debt. But how do you do that when he keeps raising interest rates on you? I'd like to let all of that interest that he's raising pay off debt, and we could do that. We'd pay off a lot of debt.

STAFF: Sir, your next meeting is here, so maybe you guys—

Mr. Trump: OK.

STAFF:—have one last question.

Mr. Trump: So with all the—I'm not doing anything. I'm independent. But I'm allowed to say what I think. That's what I think. I think he's making a mistake. I want to pay amortization. You can't pay amortization when he's raising interest rates, OK?

WSJ: I wanted to ask you—

Mr. Trump: To the extent that they're raising them.

WSJ: I just wanted to ask you, before we have to go, about your former lawyer, Michael Cohen. He—

Mr. Trump: About who?

WSJ: About Michael Cohen, your former lawyer. He said that you ordered him to arrange these payments during the 2016 campaign.

Mr. Trump: I've discussed that so much. Nobody cares about that.

WSJ: But do you feel betrayed by your former lawyer—

Mr. Trump: Well, he's not allowed.

WSJ:—that he's now turning on you?

Mr. Trump: I mean, he's a lawyer. He's got tremendous legal liability. He's a lawyer. It's unthinkable that a lawyer would tape a client, that a lawyer would make statements to—he's got tremendous legal liability. He shouldn't do that.

Yeah, I'm surprised that he did it, but one of those things. But that a lawyer would tape a client, that a lawyer would make statements to people, he's not allowed to do that legally.

WSJ: And you're saying—

Mr. Trump: He's got—he's got—all I can say is he's got tremendous legal liability for doing that.

WSJ: And you're saying you never discussed any of these payments with him during the campaign—

Mr. Trump: I've made all the statements.

WSJ:—that he did it.

Mr. Trump: Why do I have to say it again? I'm just saying a lawyer can't do that. Now, he represented me on very small things. He was like a public-relations person. But he was also a lawyer. A lawyer can't do that. Can you imagine a lawyer taping a client? I've seen lawyers that are very tough, very smart. They've told me, they've said they've never heard of that before. They've never even heard of it.

WSJ: What was your reaction when you found out that he had decided—

Mr. Trump: I was surprised.

WSJ:—to make this payment?

Mr. Trump: I was surprised. Who knew? Anybody would be surprised. Now, of the tapes, there was one tape and that—it was a meaningless tape. There were many other tapes, though. He taped many, many people. He was taping many people. Hey, I wasn't his only client. He

was—you know, he had clients. He had a lot of clients, I guess, over the years.

The other thing is—this wasn't me. This was having to do with the taxi industry or something. But he has—and financing, but nothing to do with me. But for a lawyer to tape a client is unthinkable. I've dealt with—I've spoken to lawyers that were tough people, that have seen it all. They'd never heard of that one. But remember this, that the one little tape, but he also taped many other people—many, many people.

WSJ: Many, yeah. Were you angry?

Mr. Trump: And those tapes, as I've heard, are unbelievably complimentary to me.

WSJ: I've heard that too.

STAFF: We've got to go.

WSJ: Were you angry when you found out that he had made—

Mr. Trump: OK. Well, wait a minute, that's a big point. But, you know, they're unbelievable, OK, so this is used in writing.

WSJ: Yeah.

Mr. Trump: I don't want to hear it on the radio or anything.

WSJ: No.

Mr. Trump: We'll do it again, Michael.

end

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 5:50 PM

To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)

Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6) Bushman, William SES SD

(b)(6) Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA (US)

(b)(6)

Subject: Re: WSJ Article Assist

Analysis Team,

Please try to pull the article at the link below and send to all on this email.

Thanks much!

V/r

(b)(6)

Senior Military Assistant

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

Pentagon (b)(6)

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On Oct 24, 2018, at 5:42 PM, (b)(6)

wrote:

Dana or Charlie – can you help me get this full article? I don't have WSJ access.

Thanks!

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/transcript-of-president-trumps-interview-with-the-wall-street-journal-1540388205>

From: Sweeney, Kevin SES SD
To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US)
Subject: FW: Jamal Khashoggi Timeline
Date: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 7:22:13 AM
Attachments: (b)(5)
 (b)(5)

From: Boney, Virginia M. EOP/WHO <(b)(6)>
Sent: Wednesday, October 10, 2018 6:29 AM
To: Sweeney, Kevin SES SD (b)(6) Rood, John C HON OSD OUSD POLICY (US)
(b)(6)
Subject: Jamal Khashoggi Timeline

Hopefully y'all have already received this, but FYSA.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



BRIEFING CARD
Jan. 30, 2019
Death of Khashoggi

I am not going to speculate on the death of Mr. Khashoggi or any potential impacts to foreign policy with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

.Desired Headlines

- Strong U.S.-Saudi Ties Critical to Stability in the Middle East
- Security Cooperation Remains Strong in Face of Geo-Political Challenges

Key Points

- There's been no change in the mil-to-mil relationship that we have with Saudi Arabia and the parameters of that relationship. And if there is a change in that, we'll certainly make sure that you're aware of it.
- The murder of Khashoggi is separate from the Yemen situation. That stands unique by itself.
- I'm not going to speculate on foreign policy. The implications of everything going on extend far beyond our defense relationship are currently being handled through political and diplomatic efforts.
- We don't discuss intelligence matters in public.
- When it comes to the Khashoggi murder, we have every expectation that whoever was involved in this, whether directly involved or directing the murder, is going to be held to account.
- We have to determine a way to hold those accountable for Khashoggi's murder while also not reducing the strategic imperative to work together in order to remain unified against Iran's malign activities and influence across the Middle East.

Coordinated with: Policy, NSC, State Department

Prepared by: (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: (b)(6)
Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US); Manning, Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA (US)
Subject: FW: FYSA: POTUS Statement on Saudi Arabia (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:02:07 PM

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

(b)

As discussed. Please see POTUS statement below. Articles on this issue have started to publish.

V/r,

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

Pentagon (b)(6)

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Office

Cell: (b)(6)

Link: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/statement-president-donald-j-trump-standing-saudi-arabia/>

Statement from President Donald J. Trump on Standing with Saudi Arabia
20 Nov 2018

America First!

The world is a very dangerous place!

The country of Iran, as an example, is responsible for a bloody proxy war against Saudi Arabia in Yemen, trying to destabilize Iraq's fragile attempt at democracy, supporting the terror group Hezbollah in Lebanon, propping up dictator Bashar Assad in Syria (who has killed millions of his own citizens), and much more. Likewise, the Iranians have killed many Americans and other innocent people throughout the Middle East. Iran states openly, and with great force, "Death to America!" and "Death to Israel!" Iran is considered "the world's leading sponsor of terror."

On the other hand, Saudi Arabia would gladly withdraw from Yemen if the Iranians would agree to leave. They would immediately provide desperately needed humanitarian assistance. Additionally, Saudi Arabia has agreed to spend billions of dollars in leading the fight against Radical Islamic Terrorism.

After my heavily negotiated trip to Saudi Arabia last year, the Kingdom agreed to spend and invest \$450 billion in the United States. This is a record amount of money. It will create hundreds of thousands of jobs, tremendous economic development, and much additional wealth for the United States. Of the \$450 billion, \$110 billion will be spent on the purchase of military equipment from Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon and many other great U.S. defense contractors. If we foolishly cancel these contracts, Russia and China would be the enormous beneficiaries - and very happy to acquire all of this newfound business. It would be a wonderful gift to them directly from the United States!

The crime against Jamal Khashoggi was a terrible one, and one that our country does not condone. Indeed, we have taken strong action against those already known to have participated in the murder. After great independent

research, we now know many details of this horrible crime. We have already sanctioned 17 Saudis known to have been involved in the murder of Mr. Khashoggi, and the disposal of his body.

Representatives of Saudi Arabia say that Jamal Khashoggi was an "enemy of the state" and a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, but my decision is in no way based on that - this is an unacceptable and horrible crime. King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman vigorously deny any knowledge of the planning or execution of the murder of Mr. Khashoggi. Our intelligence agencies continue to assess all information, but it could very well be that the Crown Prince had knowledge of this tragic event - maybe he did and maybe he didn't!

That being said, we may never know all of the facts surrounding the murder of Mr. Jamal Khashoggi. In any case, our relationship is with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They have been a great ally in our very important fight against Iran. The United States intends to remain a steadfast partner of Saudi Arabia to ensure the interests of our country, Israel and all other partners in the region. It is our paramount goal to fully eliminate the threat of terrorism throughout the world!

I understand there are members of Congress who, for political or other reasons, would like to go in a different direction - and they are free to do so. I will consider whatever ideas are presented to me, but only if they are consistent with the absolute security and safety of America. After the United States, Saudi Arabia is the largest oil producing nation in the world. They have worked closely with us and have been very responsive to my requests to keeping oil prices at reasonable levels - so important for the world. As President of the United States I intend to ensure that, in a very dangerous world, America is pursuing its national interests and vigorously contesting countries that wish to do us harm. Very simply it is called America First!

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

From: [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]](#)
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Date: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:07:39 PM

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Original Message—

From: White, Dina W SES OSD (US) [mailto:[\[REDACTED\]](#)] Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:06 PM
To: Griffin, Jennifer <Jennifer.Griffin@FOXNEWS.COM>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] [RE] [Non-Del Source] FW: URGENT: POTUS STATEMENT ON JAMAL KHASHOGGI

What's your number in the booth?

Dina W. White
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
Public Affairs
Office: [REDACTED]
E-mail: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED] [@ewellington](https://twitter.com/ewellington)
Website: www.knowyourmilitary.org
Join the conversation: #KnowYourMil
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Original Message—

From: Griffin, Jennifer <Jennifer.Griffin@FOXNEWS.COM>
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:05 PM
To: White, Dina W SES OSD (US) [REDACTED]
Subject: [Non-Del Source] FW: URGENT: POTUS STATEMENT ON JAMAL KHASHOGGI

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

<Caution-Caution-[https://gallery.mailchimp.com/42763d0f21ba19c34fc0f0761/tragedy/3aa25a03_561e-418a-8521-20c2a4604573.png>](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/42763d0f21ba19c34fc0f0761/tragedy/3aa25a03_561e-418a-8521-20c2a4604573.png)

Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 20, 2018

Statement from President Donald J. Trump on Standing with Saudi Arabia

America First!

The world is a very dangerous place!

The country of Iran, as an example, is responsible for a bloody proxy war against Saudi Arabia in Yemen, trying to destabilize Iraq's fragile attempt at democracy, supporting the terror group Hezbollah in Lebanon, preparing up-dictator Bashar Assad in Syria (who has killed millions of his own citizens), and much more. Likewise, the Iranian has killed many Americans and other innocent people throughout the Middle East. Iran operates openly, and with great force. "Death to America" and "Death to Israel!" Iran is considered "the world's leading sponsor of terror."

On the other hand, Saudi Arabia would gladly withdraw from Yemen if the Unites would agree to leave. They would immediately provide desperately needed humanitarian assistance. Additionally, Saudi Arabia has agreed to spend billions of dollars in leading the fight against Radical Islamic Terrorism.

After my heavily negotiated trip to Saudi Arabia last year, the Kingdom agreed to spend and invest \$450 billion in the United States. This is a record amount of money. It will create hundreds of thousands of jobs, tremendous economic development, and much additional wealth for the United States. Of the \$450 billion, \$110 billion will be spent on the purchase of military equipment from Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon and many other great U.S. defense contractors. If we foolishly cancel these contracts, Russia and China would be the enormous beneficiaries - and very happy to acquire all of this newfound business. It would be a wonderful gift to them directly from the United States!

The crime against Jamal Khashoggi was a terrible one, and one that our country does not condone. Indeed, we have taken strong action against those already known to have participated in the murder. After great independent research, we now know many details of this horrific crime. We have already sanctioned 17 Saudis known to have been involved in the murder of Mr. Khashoggi, and the disposal of the body.

Representatives of Saudi Arabia say that Jamal Khashoggi was an "enemy of the state" and a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, but my decision is in no way based on that - this is an unacceptable and horrific crime. King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (rigorously deny any knowledge of the planning or execution of the murder of Mr. Khashoggi). Our intelligence agencies continue to assess all information, but it could very well be that the Crown Prince had knowledge of this tragic event - maybe he did and maybe he didn't.

That being said, we may never know all of the facts surrounding the murder of Mr. Jamal Khashoggi. In any case, our relationship with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They have been a great ally in our very important fight against terror. The United States intends to remain a steadfast partner of Saudi Arabia to ensure the interests of our country, Israel and all other partners in the region. It is our paramount goal to fully eliminate the threat of terrorism throughout the world!

I understand there are members of Congress who, for political or other reasons, would like to go in a different direction - and they are free to do so. I will consider whatever ideas are presented to me, but only if they are consistent with the absolute security and safety of America. After the United States, Saudi Arabia is the largest oil producing nation in the world. They have worked closely with us and have been very responsive to my requests to keep oil prices at reasonable levels - so important for the world. As President of the United States I intend to ensure that, in a very dangerous world, America is pursuing its national interests and vigorously combating countries that wish to do us harm. Very simply, it is called America First.

WHR

Unsubscribe <Caution-Caution-Hipsterville.proofpoint.com/v2/m1u=http://3A_wlhetbea.us19.list-2Dremapge.com_imsubscribe-Wfu-3Dc9763062.html?8c44fe0f7604-2bid-2D7b5d710337-26c-3D42086824j-26c-3Dce0fad65804d=DwMfA9Qcc-cvHtDQ9pEpapeon223wQdr=6Bwu_mainHttpRgLP78A.G9104f8a.SogfJbDpQnU&or=Lalj9teAGYIPZ5_PIVDcQlapC8_sNeAjQ0nUY5kkY&s=eP3CnX.DsmpYH9JdkrsfNxslfY9rEqkSx2645.c=2>

The White House | 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW | Washington, DC 20500-0003 | USA | 202-450-1111 |

John Raben-

Chief White House Correspondent

Fox News Channel

johnraben@foxnews.com <Caution-Caution-muambyjh10073@cautanews.com>

(b)(6) while

by John Roberts Fox

OSJI/1:19-cv-00234/000473

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OSJI/1:19-cv-00234/000474

From: [Manning, Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA \(US\)](#)
To: [White, Dana W SES OSD \(US\)](#)
Cc: [OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Duty Officer Press Operations](#) (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: FVSA: "Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing" (WP)
Date: Friday, November 2, 2018 9:29:07 PM

Yes Ma'am.

Very respectfully,
Rob

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 2, 2018, at 8:00 PM, White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
wrote:

This should be in tomorrow's MNON

Ms. Dana W. White
ATSD/PA
(b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
(b)(6)
Date: November 2, 2018 at 3:58:58 PM EDT
To: OSD Pentagon PA List DPO CENTCOM
(b)(6)

Cc: "White, Dana W SES OSD (US)"
(b)(6) "Summers, Charles E II SES OSD
PA (US)" (b)(6) (b)(6)
(b)(6)

(b)(6) (b)(6) "Whitman, Burke W MajGen USMC
2ND MARDIV (US)" (b)(6) "Manning,
Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA (US)"
(b)(6)

OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Duty Officer Press Operations
(b)(6) OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media
Analysis (b)(6)
Subject: FYSA: "Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing"
(WP)

Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing
Washington Post | Recep Tayyip Erdogan

The story is all too familiar: Jamal Khashoggi, a Saudi journalist and a family man, entered Saudi Arabia's Consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2 for marriage formalities. No one - not even his fiancee, who was waiting outside the compound - has ever seen him again.

Over the course of the past month, Turkey has moved heaven and earth to shed light on all aspects of this case. As a result of our efforts, the world has learned that Khashoggi was killed in cold blood by a death squad, and it has been established that his murder was premeditated.

Yet there are other, no less significant questions whose answers will contribute to our understanding of this deplorable act. Where is Khashoggi's body? Who is the "local collaborator" to whom Saudi officials claimed to have handed over Khashoggi's remains? Who gave the order to kill this kind soul? Unfortunately, the Saudi authorities have refused to answer those questions.

We know that the perpetrators are among the 18 suspects detained in Saudi Arabia. We also know that those individuals came to carry out their orders: Kill Khashoggi and leave. Finally, we know that the order to kill Khashoggi came from the highest levels of the Saudi government.

Some seem to hope this "problem" will go away in time. But we will keep asking those questions, which are crucial to the criminal investigation in Turkey, but also to Khashoggi's family and loved ones. A month after his killing, we still do not know where his body is. At the very least, he deserves a proper burial in line with Islamic customs. We owe it to his family and friends, including his former colleagues at The Post, to give them an opportunity to say their goodbyes and pay their respects to this honorable man. To ensure that the world will keep asking the same questions, we have shared the evidence with our friends and allies, including the United States.

As we continue to look for answers, I would like to stress that Turkey and Saudi Arabia enjoy friendly relations. I do not believe for a second that King Salman, the custodian of the holy mosques, ordered

the hit on Khashoggi. Therefore, I have no reason to believe that his murder reflected Saudi Arabia's official policy. In this sense, it would be wrong to view the Khashoggi slaying as a "problem" between two countries. Nonetheless, I must add that our friendship with Riyadh, which goes back a long time, doesn't mean we will turn a blind eye to the premeditated murder that unfolded in front of our very eyes. The killing of Khashoggi is inexplicable. Had this atrocity taken place in the United States or elsewhere, authorities in those countries would have gotten to the bottom of what happened. It would be out of the question for us to act any other way.

No one should dare to commit such acts on the soil of a NATO ally again. If anyone chooses to ignore that warning, they will face severe consequences. The Khashoggi murder was a clear violation and a blatant abuse of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. Failure to punish the perpetrators could set a very dangerous precedent.

This is another reason we were shocked and saddened by the efforts of certain Saudi officials to cover up Khashoggi's premeditated murder rather than serve the cause of justice, as our friendship would require. Though Riyadh has detained 18 suspects, it is deeply concerning that no action has been taken against the Saudi consul general, who lied through his teeth to the media and fled Turkey shortly afterward. Likewise, the refusal of the Saudi public prosecutor - who recently visited his counterpart in Istanbul - to cooperate with the investigation and answer even simple questions is very frustrating. His invitation for Turkish investigators to Saudi Arabia for more talks about the case felt like a desperate and deliberate stalling tactic.

The murder of Jamal Khashoggi involves a lot more than a group of security officials, just as the Watergate scandal was bigger than a break-in and the 9/11 terror attacks went beyond the hijackers. As responsible members of the international community, we must reveal the identities of the puppetmasters behind Khashoggi's killing and discover those in whom Saudi officials - still trying to cover up the murder - have placed their trust.

--Recep Tayyip Erdogan is the president of Turkey.

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6)

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Duty Officer Press Operations; White, Dana W SES OSD (US)
Cc: Manning, Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA (US) (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(6) OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
Date: RE: FYSA: "Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing" (WP)
Friday, November 2, 2018 8:11:05 PM

Flagged for MNON inclusion. Thank you for the guidance.

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6)

---Original Message---

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Duty Officer Press Operations

Sent: Friday, November 2, 2018 8:04 PM

To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)

Cc: Manning, Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA (US) (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Subject: Re: FYSA: "Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing" (WP)

It will be, ma'am.

V/R,
Duty Officer
Defense Press Operations

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(b)(6) wrote:

This should be in tomorrow's MNON

Ms. Dana W. White
ATSD/PA

(b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Date: November 2, 2018 at 3:58:58 PM EDT

To: OSD Pentagon PA List DPO CENTCOM (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Cc: "White, Dana W SES OSD (US)" (b)(6)

(b)(6)

>, "Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA (US)"

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Joiner, A Kimberley (Kim) SES OSD PA

>>, "Whitman, Burke W MajGen USMC

2ND MARDIV (US)" (b)(6)

COL USARMY OSD PA (US) (b)(6)

(b)(6)

, "Manning, Robert III

(b)(6)

OSD Pentagon PA

Mailbox Duty Officer Press Operations (b)(6)

OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Subject: FYSA: "Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing" (WP)

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Washington Post | Recep Tayyip Erdogan

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-Recep Tayyip Erdogan is the president of Turkey.

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: (b)(6)
Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US); (b)(6)
Subject: RE: FYSA: POTUS Statement on Saudi Arabia (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:03:36 PM

Copy, ma'am. Flagging for Chief.

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 2:02 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US); (b)(6) Manning, Robert
III COL USARMY OSD PA (US) (b)(6)
Subject: FW: FYSA: POTUS Statement on Saudi Arabia (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

(b)

As discussed. Please see POTUS statement below. Articles on this issue have started to publish.

V/r,

(b)(6)

Senior Military Assistant
Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6)

Link:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/statement-president-donald-j-trump-standing-saudi-arabia/>

Statement from President Donald J. Trump on Standing with Saudi Arabia
20 Nov 2018

America First!

The world is a very dangerous place!

The country of Iran, as an example, is responsible for a bloody proxy war against Saudi Arabia in Yemen, trying to destabilize Iraq's fragile attempt at democracy, supporting the terror group Hezbollah in Lebanon, propping up dictator Bashar Assad in Syria (who has killed millions of his own citizens), and much more. Likewise, the Iranians have killed many Americans and other innocent people throughout the Middle East. Iran states openly,

and with great force, "Death to America!" and "Death to Israel!" Iran is considered "the world's leading sponsor of terror."

On the other hand, Saudi Arabia would gladly withdraw from Yemen if the Iranians would agree to leave. They would immediately provide desperately needed humanitarian assistance. Additionally, Saudi Arabia has agreed to spend billions of dollars in leading the fight against Radical Islamic Terrorism.

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Representatives of Saudi Arabia say that Jamal Khashoggi was an "enemy of the state" and a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, but my decision is in no way based on that - this is an unacceptable and horrible crime. King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman vigorously deny any knowledge of the planning or execution of the murder of Mr. Khashoggi. Our intelligence agencies continue to assess all information, but it could very well be that the Crown Prince had knowledge of this tragic event - maybe he did and maybe he didn't!

That being said, we may never know all of the facts surrounding the murder of Mr. Jamal Khashoggi. In any case, our relationship is with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They have been a great ally in our very important fight against Iran. The United States intends to remain a steadfast partner of Saudi Arabia to ensure the interests of our country, Israel and all other partners in the region. It is our paramount goal to fully eliminate the threat of terrorism throughout the world!

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[redacted]
(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

[redacted]
(b)(6)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

From: Rood, John C HON OSD OUSD POLICY (US)
To: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Cc: Trulio, David V SES OSD OUSD POLICY (US) [REDACTED] (b)(6) White,
Dana W SES OSD (US); OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List USDP MAs and SAs
Subject: Re: Wash Po: Killing of Khashoggi tests U.S. defense industry as backlash builds on Capitol Hill
Date: Thursday, November 22, 2018 3:07:59 PM

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Thanks for passing along the good news. Helpful as you say to prepare for the AIA meeting.

Enjoy a great Thanksgiving and thanks for all the good work that you do.—John—

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 22, 2018, at 9:32 AM, [REDACTED] (b)(6)
[REDACTED] (b)(6) wrote:

Mr. Rood:

Good news.

A couple of weeks ago, we responded to a query from WashPo about your and Secretary Esper's compliance with ethics requirements.

The story ran today, front page (pasted below).

There is no mention of you or Esper. The article does touch on former defense industry executives in the current administration and references Charles Faulkner at State.

It is worth a read before your AIA engagement next week.

I hope you and your family enjoy a restful Thanksgiving.

V/r,

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

Killing of Khashoggi tests U.S. defense industry as backlash builds on Capitol Hill

By **Beth Reinhard**,
Tom Hamburger and
Emma Brown

November 21 at 9:49 PM

The powerful U.S. defense industry is facing a rare challenge to its influence on Capitol Hill as support for arms sales to Saudi Arabia has rapidly eroded following the killing last month of journalist Jamal Khashoggi at the hands of Saudi government operatives.

The defense industry's typically aggressive lobby has gone quiet as gruesome details of Khashoggi's death have leaked and American intelligence officials have laid blame at the feet of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

Even as President Trump has reiterated his support for continued sales of U.S. weapons to the kingdom, congressional opposition to those sales and to U.S. support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen has mounted in recent weeks — testing the power of an industry that has sold tens of billions of dollars' worth of weapons systems to the kingdom since the 1950s.

Growing bipartisan support for Senate legislation to cut off the arms sales marks a historic disruption in a seemingly inviolable arms-for-oil trade relationship that stretches back decades and is an unusual setback for one of the most influential lobbies in Washington.

In the coming weeks, key senators are expected to push for a vote on a measure that would impose sanctions on Saudi officials responsible for Khashoggi's death and suspend many weapons sales to Saudi Arabia until it ceases airstrikes in Yemen that have killed tens of thousands of civilians.

The bill represents one of the first major breaks between congressional Republicans and the White House, which has embraced Saudi Arabia as a key Middle Eastern ally — a strategy driven by Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, who forged a strong personal relationship with the crown prince.

But Trump's staunch support for the kingdom in the face of the CIA's conclusion that Mohammed ordered the assassination of Khashoggi — a Washington Post contributing columnist — has triggered a backlash on Capitol Hill amid intensifying opposition to the war in Yemen.

In an interview Tuesday, Sen. Lindsey O. Graham (R-S.C.), a Trump confidant who previously opposed efforts to restrict arms sales to Saudi Arabia, suggested lawmakers might tie federal funding to Saudi sanctions. He is co-sponsoring the bipartisan Senate measure, which would suspend licenses for some weapons that had been previously approved.

"When it comes to the crown prince, it is not wise to look away," said Graham, calling the crown prince "a wrecking ball" on the global stage.

Other lawmakers who have backed arms deals with Saudi Arabia in the past

and are now reconsidering their support include Sen. Mark R. Warner (D-Va.), Rep. Eliot L. Engel (D-N.Y.) and House Minority Whip Steny H. Hoyer (D-Md.), according to recent votes and congressional aides.

In the House, lawmakers are signing on to several proposals that would curtail Saudi deals, including one offered by Rep. Jim McGovern (D-Mass.) that would mandate updates on the investigation into Khashoggi's death before any new military sales to Saudi Arabia could be considered.

McGovern's district is home to Raytheon, which sells hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of weapons to Saudi Arabia each year and whose corporate PAC has been a top campaign donor for McGovern in recent years.

"I care very much about jobs," said McGovern, who was an early critic of the war in Yemen. "But I don't want to create jobs by selling weapons to governments that murder journalists in cold blood and then lie about it."

The defense industry has long had a guiding hand on American foreign policy, facilitated by a parade of former military and government officials moving between corporate jobs and key State Department and Defense Department posts. U.S. defense companies have spent between \$125 million and \$130 million annually on lobbying in recent years, plus tens of millions more on contributions to federal candidates, according to the nonpartisan Center for Responsive Politics.

In a sign of the industry's muscle, Congress has only once voted to block a foreign arms deal through a key oversight tool known as a joint resolution of disapproval, according to a Congressional Research Service report. That effort occurred more than three decades ago, in 1986, and the measure was vetoed by President Ronald Reagan.

Since the start of the war in Yemen, the defense industry — working alongside lobbyists for Saudi Arabia — has successfully beat back congressional efforts, supported by human rights groups, to end or curtail U.S. support for the air war in that conflict.

For now, the defense lobby is keeping a low profile, stressing the value of a strong U.S.-Saudi relationship while strategizing how to proceed, according to people familiar with the approach. Industry lobbyists said they are closely monitoring the dynamics between top Saudi leaders and Trump, who has emerged as the industry's most vocal lobbyist, touting the economic importance of Saudi arms deals.

On Tuesday, the president suggested he might veto any congressional efforts to halt weapons sales. "We're not going to give up hundreds of billions of dollars in orders and let Russia, China and everybody else have them," he told reporters.

Officials from Raytheon, Boeing, Lockheed Martin and General Dynamics all declined The Post's requests for comment on the future of arms sales to Saudi Arabia after Khashoggi's death.

[Trump again uses arms sales to justify Saudi ties, dragging U.S. defense contractors into an unwelcome debate]

One executive said defense contractors are waiting to see whether the crown prince will be replaced before determining a course of action.

U.S. defense contractors "are really in a duck-and-cover mode, hoping to tie themselves to this as little as possible," said a prominent defense executive who spoke on the condition of anonymity out of concern that publicly discussing the issue would be bad for business. "To say that we're going to support this because we have a few thousand jobs at stake . . . we don't want that," the executive said.

Pressed by Wall Street analysts about the impact of Khashoggi's disappearance last month, officials from Raytheon and another major firm that sells arms to Saudi Arabia, Lockheed Martin, made only **brief** statements vowing to heed U.S. policy toward one of their top foreign clients.

"I'm pretty confident that we will weather this complexity," Raytheon chief executive Thomas Kennedy said in an [earnings call](#), without mentioning Khashoggi's name.

Signs of slipping support

The conflict that has ravaged one of the world's poorest countries pits the exiled Yemeni government, backed by the Saudi kingdom, against rebels known as Houthis, believed to be bolstered by Iran. U.S. assistance to the Saudi-led coalition, which began in 2015 under President Barack Obama, includes refueling planes, providing intelligence and logistical support — and selling bombs.

Intense criticism of airstrikes on civilians led the administration to halt the sale of nearly \$400 million in precision munitions guidance systems to Saudi Arabia in December 2016, at the end of the Obama administration. Three months later, the Trump administration [reversed](#) that decision and approved a resumption of weapons sales.

Since then, weapons produced by American companies have been tied to some of the worst episodes of civilian casualties.

The bomb that killed more than 50 people, including at least 40 children, on a school-bus field trip on Aug. 9 was manufactured in the United States by Lockheed Martin, a [CNN investigation](#) found. Raytheon bombs have been blamed for other airstrikes that killed civilians, including an [April 23 attack](#) on a wedding that left 22 people dead. Post reporters and human

rights groups have seen evidence that U.S.-made munitions have killed and maimed civilians in Yemen.

As the casualties increased, there were signs that congressional support for the war was slipping.

In mid-September, one month after the school-bus bombing, Raytheon's Kennedy stopped by Capitol Hill to see Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), who had raised concerns about mounting casualties in Yemen, according to a congressional aide.

Few American companies have benefited more from the Yemen war than Raytheon, a \$25 billion-a-year defense giant, analysts said.

And Menendez, exercising his power as the ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was delaying the sale of nearly \$2 billion in bomb kits made by the company to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, a Saudi ally.

Despite the Raytheon CEO's personal visit, Menendez kept his hold on the sale. He is now sponsoring the bipartisan Senate bill that calls for suspension of many weapons sales to the kingdom.

Asked about Raytheon's contacts with Menendez and other lawmakers, the company said, "As part of the government's decision-making process, Raytheon routinely engages with government officials to provide information and answer questions." Kennedy declined an interview request.

Since Khashoggi's killing, contacts with key congressional offices by Raytheon lobbyists have dropped, according to aides.

"If I was Raytheon or Boeing or Lockheed, I would keep my damn trap shut and my head low because this is bad for the Saudis," said a Republican Senate aide who spoke on the condition of anonymity to be candid about the defense lobby.

In a call with investors last month, Raytheon's chief financial officer emphasized that the company's sales to Saudi Arabia amount to just 5 percent of overall revenue.

But such figures do not illustrate the full extent of the industry's dependence on the kingdom, one of the top foreign markets for U.S. defense companies, analysts said. Saudi Arabia spends billions of dollars every year on American-made weapons systems, and the kingdom has few of the bureaucratic checks and balances that delay big military purchases in the United States.

Lockheed has made selling to foreign governments a key target for growth, with Saudi Arabia a major driver of that effort, according to one defense analyst. A photo of the crown prince during his April visit to a Lockheed facility in Silicon Valley remains on the company's website, even as other

corporations have distanced themselves from Mohammed since Khashoggi's slaying.

"The importance of military sales to Saudi Arabia goes far beyond what the annual sales figures would indicate," said Peter Mandaville, a former State Department adviser who teaches at George Mason University. "Those contracts over time keep assembly lines and supply chains open for the major defense contractors. When they are planning for the future, they always keep the Saudis in mind."

'Take the long view'

Despite the storm of controversy, former defense officials and national security analysts predict that the decades-long relationship with Saudi Arabia is likely to endure because of the kingdom's economic and strategic importance.

Hawk Carlisle, a retired Air Force general who helms the National Defense Industrial Association, an industry trade organization, said in an interview last month that while the United States must respond to Khashoggi's killing, it also must look out for national security.

"As a nation we have to uphold our principles. We need to take appropriate action but not have an overreaction," Carlisle said. "We need to take the long view."

After Khashoggi's death, Raytheon board members convened at the company's Waltham, Mass., headquarters to consider how to handle the fallout and relations with Saudi Arabia, among other issues, according to people familiar with the meeting.

The meeting was led by Kennedy, 63, a former Air Force captain who has traveled the world selling Raytheon's wares to the Saudi crown prince and other international clients. The board advised Kennedy on that day to cancel a planned trip to an economic [summit](#) in Riyadh and send others in his place, the people familiar with the meeting said.

A Raytheon spokesman called the board meeting "a regular part of our governance process."

Raytheon's board includes some of the most influential figures in the world of military strategy and intelligence: Stephen J. Hadley, national security adviser to President George W. Bush; Robert O. Work, who stepped down last year as deputy defense secretary for planning; Letitia A. Long, a veteran of the top echelons of U.S. defense and intelligence agencies; and retired Adm. Vernon Clark, former chief of naval operations.

The revolving door has also gone the other way, as former industry supporters have secured key government positions.

At the State Department, Charles Faulkner, a registered Raytheon lobbyist

from 2012 to 2016 when he worked for the firm BGR Group, now serves as acting assistant secretary of state in the Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

This fall, his bureau urged Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to certify that Saudi Arabia and the UAE were working to reduce civilian casualties, warning that holding back support for the kingdom — as other State Department officials were urging — could jeopardize future weapon sales, as the Intercept first reported.

Pompeo sided with Faulkner's bureau and allowed the weapons sales to go forward, as the Wall Street Journal first reported.

"Mr. Faulkner has extensive experience working with Capitol Hill," said State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert. "His previous positions, however, have no bearing on the final certification decision."

A building showdown

As congressional criticism has intensified, there have been signs that the Trump administration's appetite for the war is diminishing. Last week, the United States confirmed it was ending the practice of providing aerial refueling to Saudi-coalition aircraft. And Pompeo and Defense Secretary Jim Mattis recently called for a cease-fire amid warnings the war has left half the population on the brink of starvation.

Mattis said Wednesday that Saudi Arabia and the UAE had ceased airstrikes and other offensive operations over the past three days in Yemen in anticipation of U.N.-sponsored peace talks.

Still, Trump has steadfastly refused to block what he has misleadingly described as \$110 billion in military sales to the kingdom. (That figure includes deals that were laid out in nonbinding memos, were previously announced by the Obama administration or are for equipment scheduled for delivery after 2022 or at an undetermined date.)

In a statement Tuesday, Trump questioned the CIA's conclusion that the crown prince ordered Khashoggi's killing and said that his priority is to protect the trade relationship between the United States and Saudi Arabia. The kingdom keeps oil prices at "reasonable levels" and provides cash for U.S. arms that translates into U.S. jobs, Trump said.

"If we foolishly cancel these contracts, Russia and China would be the enormous beneficiaries — and very happy to acquire all of this newfound business," he said. "I understand there are members of Congress who, for political or other reasons, would like to go in a different direction — and they are free to do so."

Many congressional lawmakers — including some Republicans — reacted with disgust at his dismissal of the CIA's assessment.

"I never thought I'd see the day a White House would moonlight as a public

relations firm for the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia," Sen. Bob Corker (R-Tenn.) [tweeted](#).

The dynamic is setting up a showdown between Trump and Congress as pressure to curtail Saudi arms deals and the U.S. role in Yemen builds from human rights groups and some conservatives. The Charles Koch Institute, a nonprofit group founded by the billionaire libertarian industrialist, has been warning a bipartisan group of lawmakers about the consequences of continued U.S. involvement in Yemen, foundation officials said.

Sen. Todd C. Young (R-Ind.) — who with Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.) is [challenging](#) the State Department's decision in September to certify that Saudi Arabia and the UAE are trying to protect civilians from harm — said the rising civilian casualties in Yemen should take precedent over the industry's financial interests.

"Economic interests are important, but they are not the most important thing," Young said.

Alice Crites, Christian Davenport, Karen DeYoung, Karoun Demirjian, Aaron Gregg and Sean Sullivan contributed to this report.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/killing-of-khashoggi-tests-us-defense-industry-as-backlash-builds-on-capitol-hill/2018/11/21/15a1df52-dc7d-11e8-aa33-53bad9a881e8_story.html?utm_term=.7dc076a9bac4

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary for Public Affairs

Pentagon, Room (b)(6)

Office: (b)(6)

Mobile

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: FYSA: "The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on Khashoggi. What's the Senate Going to Do About It?"
(Defense One)
Date: Wednesday, December 5, 2018 10:08:55 AM

Ma'am,

I wanted to make sure you saw this article. I have pasted the most concerning part between the tear lines.

Please let me know if you need anything.

"Congress as a whole remains unconvinced by Mattis's and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's attempts to win them over.

Here's the bottom line: it's one thing for Democrats to go up against Trump, whom they say is too cozy with the Saudi regime and too enamored of arms sales. It's another thing for Democrats to ignore Mattis, who increasingly is perceived as a Trump fall guy, at best, or sycophant, at worst, for parrotting the president and executing orders of dubious military benefit, such as sending troops to the Mexican border.

It's a wholly different thing for Republicans to side against Trump and Mattis, and today's briefing may do more damage to the secretary's credibility than anyone else's. In essence, top senators with intelligence oversight just emerged to say they don't believe Mattis or Trump. They believe Gina Haspel, and they've seen enough. It's the most direct challenge to Mattis's credibility since he joined Trump's team. Beyond Mattis, top uniformed military leaders have tried to make their case that the U.S. is not in Yemen for American interests, not Saudi Arabia's. They've argued the U.S. is there to help keep Iran and Iranian missiles out of Yemen and pressure Houthis to negotiate an end to the fighting. In other words, to them, a vote to withdraw U.S. involvement in the Yemen conflict may hurt the U.S. more than the Saudis. They're losing that argument to an important cadre of Congress' leadership."

Best,

(b)(6)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis

(b)(6)

Date: December 4, 2018 at 6:45:21 PM EST

To: "White, Dana W SES OSD (US)"(b)(6)

"Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA (US)"

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) [REDACTED], "Joiner, A Kimberley (Kim) SES OSD PA
(US)" (b)(6) [REDACTED], "Whitman, Burke W MajGen USMC OSD
(USA)" (b)(6) [REDACTED] "Manning, Robert III COL
USARMY OSD PA (US)" (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

[REDACTED] OSD Pentagon

PA Mailbox Duty Officer Press Operations (b)(6)

Cc: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)

(b)(6)

**Subject: FYSA: "The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on Khashoggi.
What's the Senate Going to Do About it?" (Defense One)**

The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on Khashoggi. What's the Senate Going to Do About it? - 12/4
Defense One | Kevin Baron

Lindsey Graham and others emerged from a CIA briefing convinced that Trump and SecDef Mattis are wrong about the murder.

"I think he's crazy."

That's how Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., described Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, after emerging from CIA Director Gina Haspel's classified briefing to a select group of U.S. senators on Tuesday about the known details of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi's October murder at a Saudi consulate in Turkey.

"There's not a smoking gun, there's a smoking saw," Graham told reporters. It was a direct rebuke of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, who has repeatedly said "there is no smoking gun" when asked about the murder.

Mattis's talking point had already drawn fire from critics of the Trump administration and its refusal to retaliate against MbS over Khashoggi's murder. On Tuesday, Graham and the other senators emerged from Haspel's briefing convinced that MbS was at fault at some level, and that a punitive U.S. response against Saudi Arabia was warranted.

"If the crown prince went in front of a jury, he would be convicted in 30 minutes," Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., told Post intelligence reporter Shane Harris. The Associated Press quoted Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.: "I went in believing the crown prince was directly responsible or at least complicit in this and my feelings were strengthened by the information we were given." Durbin and Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., want Haspel to brief the entire body. "Every senator should hear what I heard this afternoon," Durbin said.

So what's the Senate going to do about it? The quick take is that Haspel's briefing sets up a showdown between the Senate and Trump. But really, it doesn't. The senators may be disappointed, but Congress's options are limited, even if either house can muster the votes for a punitive response. The U.S. security relationship with Saudi Arabia is firmly controlled by the executive branch. Mattis has bent over backward to avoid blaming MbS and the Saudis. There are U.S. troops across the region and Americans rely on Saudi support and intelligence and influence there. President Donald Trump has made it clear he considers the Saudi regime a crucial ally in the region, against terrorism and against Iran and its proxies.

Indeed, senior U.S. national security leaders appear nearly unanimous on this point, from Mattis and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to military leaders such as Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Joseph Dunford and Central Command's Gen. Joseph Votel. Trump has said repeatedly that nothing was going to change the U.S. relationship, unless it is proven what actually happened. The proof is now what the Congress and administration are fighting over.

So far, the Trump administration has tried to keep the public, and until Tuesday the United States Senate, from learning what the U.S. intelligence community knows about the murder. Trump refused senators' requests to have Haspel brief the entire body. The administration ultimately bent to pressure and sent the nation's top spy to brief only a select group of senators.

After Haspel's briefing, Graham did not join Durbin in calls to brief the full Senate, saying that he now understood more clearly why the intelligence leaders wanted to limit the number of senators who were briefed. He gave no details.

"The CIA in my view rose to the occasion in terms of informing the Congress," Graham said. "Saudi Arabia is a strategic ally and the relationship is worth saving, but not at all cost," he said. "MbS, the crown prince, is a wrecking ball. I think he's complicit in the murder of Mr. Khashoggi to the highest level possible."

Other members left out of the briefing were outraged. Congress as a whole remains unconvinced by Mattis's and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's attempts to win them over.

Here's the bottom line: it's one thing for Democrats to go up against Trump, whom they say is too cozy with the Saudi regime and too enamoured of arms sales. It's another thing for Democrats to ignore Mattis, who increasingly is perceived as a Trump fall guy, at best, or sycophant, at worst, for parroting the president and executing orders of dubious military benefit, such as sending troops to the Mexican border.

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The Senate measure is a largely symbolic one. But if anything it would require members of Congress to go on the record and pick a side in the war - if they can figure out what side they're voting for.

In the end, this is a low-risk fight for Congress to pick. Voting against Mattis sounds politically difficult. Voting against the Saudis does not. The Yemen war is unpopular, though good luck walking down any street and finding a dozen Americans who can explain it, much less articulate America's interests in staying in or pulling out of it. In politics, you don't need to.

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6)

From: Palladino, Robert J
To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US); Nauert, Heather N
Cc: Greenan, Robert J
Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] FW: Defense Caution-Caution-news: Mattis and Pompeo 'misleading' in Khashoggi briefing, senator says
Date: Thursday, December 6, 2018 10:05:28 AM

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Great comment...

From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, December 6, 2018 8:40 AM
To: Nauert, Heather N <NauertHN@state.gov>
Cc: Palladino, Robert J <PalladinoRJ@state.gov>; Greenan, Robert J <GreenanRJ@state.gov>
Subject: Re: [Non-DoD Source] FW: Defense Caution-Caution-news: Mattis and Pompeo 'misleading' in Khashoggi briefing, senator says

(b)(5) On the gaggle over, SD was asked about Graham's "smoking saw" comment, he simply said, "The senator is entitled to his opinion."

He also said he finds it interesting what people think and want to do when they don't have the responsibility of carrying it out. (b)(5)

SD stands behind his testimony. He has not seen evidence of the crown prince's direct involvement

We should have the transcript up shortly. I hope. Will send when it's ready

Best
Dana

Ms. Dana W. White
ATSD/PA

(b)(6)

On Dec 6, 2018, at 8:20 AM, Nauert, Heather N <NauertHN@state.gov <Caution-mailto:NauertHN@state.gov>> wrote:

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Dana

What are you saying about this?

Mattis and Pompeo 'misleading' in Khashoggi briefing, senator says

By: Joe Gould

Caution-Caution-<https://www.defensenews.com/congress/2018/12/05/mattis-and-pompeo-misleading-in-khashoggi-briefing-senator-says/> < Caution-Caution-<https://www.defensenews.com/congress/2018/12/05/mattis-and-pompeo-misleading-in-khashoggi-briefing-senator-says/> >

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo knowingly misled senators in a closed-door briefing last week on the murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, Sen. Chris Murphy said Wednesday — joining two key Republicans who have raised questions about the officials' credibility in the matter

Time will tell whether the rare shot at Mattis' integrity from Capitol Hill will have repercussions when he testifies to defend the president's budget request a few months from now. In recent months, Mattis — a former Marine four-star popular with lawmakers — has defended other politically controversial moves by the Trump administration, like troop deployments to the U.S. border and plans to reorganize the military for a Space Force.

Murphy, D-Conn., on MSNBC's "Morning Joe," said the two officials had been placed "in a really bad spot," during the all-senators briefing by President Donald Trump's "maybe he did, maybe he didn't" position on whether Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ordered the murder.

"I think the secretary of defense and secretary of state are in a really bad spot because the president has given this bear hug to MBS and to the entire Saudi regime so they are bound to carry out his bizarre policy," Murphy said, using an acronym for the crown prince.

"But at the same time, it's sort of hard to call this a cover up given the fact that everybody in that briefing last week knew that Pompeo and Mattis were misleading us, knew there was no way this murder happened without the consent and direction of MBS."

Murphy, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, co-sponsored a bipartisan resolution calling for an end to U.S. military aid in the Saudi-led war in Yemen which has found new support in the wave of attention to Khashoggi's death.

House Intelligence Committee member Chris Stewart, R-Utah, defended Mattis and

Pompeo, and Trump's response to the case. The intelligence provided to lawmakers about Khashoggi's murder, "was not definitive," he said in a CNN interview on Tuesday.

"If someone is saying that Secretary Mattis or Secretary Pompeo were dishonest, they just don't know those individuals," Stewart said. "There's no way in the world those individuals came out and lied because they didn't."

Trump has repeatedly avoided rebuking Saudi Arabia, pointing to the economic benefits of U.S. arms sales to Saudi Arabia and Riyadh's role in preventing a spike in oil prices. He's also argued its unknowable whether the crown prince was involved.

Mattis and Pompeo have defended the strategic relationship and downplayed the crown prince's ties to the murder. After briefing members of the Senate on Nov. 28, Pompeo said, "there is no direct reporting connecting the Saudi crown prince to the order to murder Jamal Khashoggi."

Three GOP lawmakers have voiced their own conclusions since a separate classified briefing Tuesday with CIA Director Gina Haspel.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Corker, R-Tenn., told reporters the crown prince "ordered, monitored the killing" of Khashoggi. "If he were in front of a jury, he would be convicted of murder in about 30 minutes," Corker said.

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., concluded the crown prince was involved and suggested in a CNN interview Wednesday that Mattis and Pompeo were both technically accurate and simply echoing the administration's position. Rubio is a member of the Senate intelligence and foreign relations committees.

"I'm neither excusing it, I'm making an observation. I disagree with that assessment," Rubio said of the two officials. "I think you know enough and the American public knows enough about Saudi Arabia and about this murder to conclude that whether or not we have a smoking gun, there is no way that 17 people that close to that crown prince go to Turkey and murder a guy at a consulate and [the crown prince] not know about it and he not be OK with it, period."

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., and a close ally of Trump's, told reporters there was a "smoking saw" — a reference to reports Saudi government agents murdered and dismembered Khashoggi in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. You'd have to be "willfully blind" to not conclude Mohammed was responsible, he said.

"I would imagine in a Democratic administration, I would be all over them for being in the pocket of Saudi Arabia," Graham said of Mattis and Pompeo. "But since I have such respect for them, I'm going to assume they are being good soldiers ... I would really question someone's judgment if they couldn't figure this out."

Graham, who is a member of the armed services and foreign relations committees, told Fox News that he could no longer support arms sales to Riyadh under Mohammed, who he called "a wrecking ball when it comes to the Mideast."

After the Saudi-led embargo on Qatar, Saudi treatment of Lebanon's prime minister and Mohammed's jailing of his family members, "I've had enough," Graham said, "And if we don't stop him now, it gets worse later. So I'm not going to support arms sales to somebody this unstable.

"What makes you believe he wouldn't take an American weapon system and give it to the Chinese? This guy's nuts," Graham said.

Another vocal proponent of foreign military sales, Rep. Kay Granger, R-Texas, said recently that she favors a halt on sales to Riyadh. In the new Congress, Granger is expected to ascend from House's lead appropriator for defense to the House's lead Republican appropriator overall.

In Senate Armed Services Committee hearing Tuesday, Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., said defense officials' credibility on Capitol Hill has taken a hit because they've echoed the administration's legalistic arguments, that U.S. aid to Saudi Arabia in Yemen aren't "hostilities" under the law.

"We're insulted by that, and I just think we need to be candid about what we're doing and not doing," Kaine said.

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6)
To: Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA (US); White, Dana W SES OSD (US)
Cc:
Subject: RE: FYSA: "The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on Khashoggi. What's the Senate Going to Do About it?" (Defense One) (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Tuesday, December 4, 2018 7:01:10 PM

Ma'am,

Flagging for Chief.

Have a great night.

V/r,

(b)(1)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, December 4, 2018 6:50 PM

To: (b)(6)

Cc: Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA (US) (b)(6)

White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)

Subject: FW: FYSA: "The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on Khashoggi. What's the Senate Going to Do About it?" (Defense One) (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

(b)(1)

For CoS and your SA.

V/r,

(b)(6)

Senior Military Assistant

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

Pentagon (b)(6)

NIPR (b)(6)

SIPR:

Office:

Cell: (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis

Sent: Tuesday, December 4, 2018 6:45 PM

To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6) Summers,

Charles E II SES OSD PA (US) (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) Joiner, A Kimberley (Kim) SES OSD PA (US)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) Manning, Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA (US)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Duty

Officer Press Operations (b)(6)

Cc: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis

(b)(6)

Subject: FYSA: "The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on Khashoggi. What's the Senate Going to Do About it?" (Defense One)

The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on Khashoggi. What's the Senate Going to Do About it? - 12/4

Defense One | Kevin Baron

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In the end, this is a low-risk fight for Congress to pick. Voting against Mattis sounds politically difficult. Voting against the Saudis does not. The Yemen war is unpopular, though good luck walking down any street and finding a dozen Americans who can explain it, much less articulate America's interests in staying in or pulling out of it. In politics, you don't need to.

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6)
To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: FYSA: "The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on Khashoggi. What's the Senate Going to Do About it?" (Defense One)
Date: Wednesday, December 5, 2018 2:16:33 PM

Copy, ma'am.

From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, December 5, 2018 1:46 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: Re: FYSA: "The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on Khashoggi. What's the Senate Going to Do About it?" (Defense One)

Thanks and make sure (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Ms. Dana W. White
ATSD/PA

(b)(6)

On Dec 5, 2018, at 10:08 AM (b)(6)

(b)(6) wrote:

Ma'am,

I wanted to make sure you saw this article. I have pasted the most concerning part between the tear lines.

Please let me know if you need anything.

"Congress as a whole remains unconvinced by Mattis's and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's attempts to win them over.

Here's the bottom line: it's one thing for Democrats to go up against Trump, whom they say is too cozy with the Saudi regime and too enamoured of arms sales. It's another thing for Democrats to ignore Mattis, who increasingly is perceived as a Trump fall guy, at best, or sycophant, at worst, for parroting the president and executing orders of dubious military benefit, such as sending troops to the Mexican border.

It's a wholly different thing for Republicans to side against Trump and Mattis, and today's briefing may do more damage to the secretary's credibility than anyone else's. In essence, top senators with intelligence oversight just emerged to say they don't believe Mattis or Trump. They believe Gina Haspel, and they've seen enough. It's the most direct challenge to Mattis's credibility since he joined

Trump's team. Beyond Mattis, top uniformed military leaders have tried to make their case that the U.S. is not in Yemen for American interests, not Saudi Arabia's. They've argued the U.S. is there to help keep Iran and Iranian missiles out of Yemen and pressure Houthis to negotiate an end to the fighting. In other words, to them, a vote to withdraw U.S. involvement in the Yemen conflict may hurt the U.S. more than the Saudis. They're losing that argument to an important cadre of Congress' leadership."

Best,

(b)(6)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis

(b)(6)

Date: December 4, 2018 at 6:45:21 PM EST

To: "White, Dana W SES OSD (US)"

(b)(6), "Summers, Charles E II SES OSD
PA (US)" (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

"Joiner,

A Kimberley (Kim) SES OSD PA (US)"

(b)(6), "Whitman, Burke W MajGen USMC
OSD (USA)" (b)(6), "Manning, Robert
III COL USARMY OSD PA (US)"

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

, OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Duty

Officer Press Operations (b)(6)

Cc: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis

(b)(6)

Subject: FYSA: "The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on
Khashoggi. What's the Senate Going to Do About it?" (Defense
One)

The CIA Presented a 'Smoking Gun' on Khashoggi. What's the
Senate Going to Do About it? - 12/4

Defense One | Kevin Baron

Lindsey Graham and others emerged from a CIA briefing convinced that Trump and SecDef Mattis are wrong about the murder.

"I think he's crazy."

That's how Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., described Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, after emerging from CIA Director Gina Haspel's classified briefing to a select group of U.S. senators on Tuesday about the known details of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi's October murder at a Saudi consulate in Turkey.

"There's not a smoking gun, there's a smoking saw," Graham told reporters. It was a direct rebuke of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, who has repeatedly said "there is no smoking gun" when asked about the murder.

Mattis's talking point had already drawn fire from critics of the Trump administration and its refusal to retaliate against MbS over Khashoggi's murder. On Tuesday, Graham and the other senators emerged from Haspel's briefing convinced that MbS was at fault at some level, and that a punitive U.S. response against Saudi Arabia was warranted.

"If the crown prince went in front of a jury, he would be convicted in 30 minutes," Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., told Post intelligence reporter Shane Harris. The Associated Press quoted Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.: "I went in believing the crown prince was directly responsible or at least complicit in this and my feelings were strengthened by the information we were given." Durbin and Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., want Haspel to brief the entire body. "Every senator should hear what I heard this afternoon," Durbin said.

So what's the Senate going to do about it? The quick take is that Haspel's briefing sets up a showdown between the Senate and Trump. But really, it doesn't. The senators may be disappointed, but Congress's options are limited, even if either house can muster the votes for a punitive response. The U.S. security relationship with Saudi Arabia is firmly controlled by the executive branch. Mattis has bent over backward to avoid blaming MbS and the Saudis. There are U.S. troops across the region and Americans rely on Saudi support and intelligence and influence there. President Donald Trump has made it clear he considers the Saudi regime a crucial ally in the region, against terrorism and against Iran and its proxies.

Indeed, senior U.S. national security leaders appear nearly unanimous on this point, from Mattis and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to military leaders such as Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Joseph Dunford and Central Command's Gen. Joseph Votel. Trump has said

repeatedly that nothing was going to change the U.S. relationship, unless it is proven what actually happened. The proof is now what the Congress and administration are fighting over.

So far, the Trump administration has tried to keep the public, and until Tuesday the United States Senate, from learning what the U.S. intelligence community knows about the murder. Trump refused senators' requests to have Haspel brief the entire body. The administration ultimately bent to pressure and sent the nation's top spy to brief only a select group of senators.

After Haspel's briefing, Graham did not join Durbin in calls to brief the full Senate, saying that he now understood more clearly why the intelligence leaders wanted to limit the number of senators who were briefed. He gave no details.

"The CIA in my view rose to the occasion in terms of informing the Congress," Graham said. "Saudi Arabia is a strategic ally and the relationship is worth saving, but not at all cost," he said. "MbS, the crown prince, is a wrecking ball. I think he's complicit in the murder of Mr. Khashoggi to the highest level possible."

Other members left out of the briefing were outraged. Congress as a whole remains unconvinced by Mattis's and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's attempts to win them over.

Here's the bottom line: it's one thing for Democrats to go up against Trump, whom they say is too cozy with the Saudi regime and too enamoured of arms sales. It's another thing for Democrats to ignore Mattis, who increasingly is perceived as a Trump fall guy, at best, or sycophant, at worst, for parroting the president and executing orders of dubious military benefit, such as sending troops to the Mexican border.

It's a wholly different thing for Republicans to side against Trump and Mattis, and today's briefing may do more damage to the secretary's credibility than anyone else's. In essence, top senators with intelligence oversight just emerged to say they don't believe Mattis or Trump. They believe Gina Haspel, and they've seen enough. It's the most direct challenge to Mattis's credibility since he joined Trump's team. Beyond Mattis, top uniformed military leaders have tried to make their case that the U.S. is not in Yemen for American interests, not Saudi Arabia's. They've argued the U.S. is there to help keep Iran and Iranian missiles out of Yemen and pressure Houthis to negotiate an end to the fighting. In other words, to them, a vote to withdraw U.S. involvement in the Yemen conflict may hurt the U.S. more than the Saudis. They're losing that argument to an important cadre of Congress' leadership.

Last week, the administration tried, and failed, to convince the Senate

to let diplomats do their work without pulling out the U.S. military, and the leverage it gives the United States, the Saudis, and Yemen's legitimate government against the Houthis and their Iranian patrons.

"We made clear that they're considering debating a resolution on the Senate floor which we think is just poorly timed," Pompeo said last week, after he and Mattis met with members of Congress. "We are on the cusp of allowing the U.S. envoy, Martin Griffiths, to, in December, gather the parties together and hopefully get a ceasefire in Yemen, something that we have diplomatically been striving for for months, and we think we're right on the cusp of that."

The Senate measure is a largely symbolic one. But if anything it would require members of Congress to go on the record and pick a side in the war - if they can figure out what side they're voting for.

In the end, this is a low-risk fight for Congress to pick. Voting against Mattis sounds politically difficult. Voting against the Saudis does not. The Yemen war is unpopular, though good luck walking down any street and finding a dozen Americans who can explain it, much less articulate America's interests in staying in or pulling out of it. In politics, you don't need to.

(b)(6) [redacted]

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6) [redacted]

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US); Bushman, William SES SD
Cc: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(6)
Date: RE: ANOTHER QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
Attachments: Monday, December 10, 2018 12:39:47 PM
[Media Coverage House Response to Saudi Briefings 10 Dec 2018.docx](#)

MEDIA COVERAGE | HOUSE RESPONSE TO SAUDI BRIEFINGS
NOVEMBER 26-DECEMBER 10 2018

OVERVIEW: House reaction to the all-Senate briefings by Sec. Mattis, Sec. Pompeo, and CIA Director Gina Haspel was notably less voluminous than that of senators. With the notable exception of Speaker Paul Ryan, current leadership did not weigh in on the issue. Congressmen with a long-running interest in the conflict, such as Reps. Lieu and Pocan, released statements and tweets on Jamal Khashoggi and the war in Yemen, all of which called into question the strategic wisdom, moral consequences, and legality of continuing U.S. involvement in the conflict.

Comments from Representatives appearing in the media:

- . Rep. Paul Ryan said the Yemen resolution "isn't the way to go" and instead he favored invoking the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, which gives the U.S. government the power to impose sanctions for human rights abuses. "Yes, we have lots of strategic interests in alignment with the Saudis, no two ways about it," Ryan said. "Still, we can speak with moral clarity. We can take actions that address these issues."
- . Rep. Chris Stewart defended President Trump's response to Khashoggi's death, saying, "We have to have a relationship with some players we don't agree with. Journalists disappear all over the country."
- . Rep. John Curtis said in a House speech: "In addition to the horrendous humanitarian cost in Yemen itself, it makes the entire region less secure and makes humanitarian disasters in the wider region more likely. But more importantly, what's happening in Yemen is just simply wrong. It's not in harmony with our values and, ironically, the very reason we want a strong ally in Saudi Arabia is to prevent this type of situation, not foster it."
- . Rep. Mark Pocan said a strong vote in the Senate would ramp up pressure on the Republican leadership to allow a vote. "If that doesn't happen, we will in the next Congress be in a better position to move it forward. We're just on the cusp of doing the right thing," he added.
- . Rep. Eliot Engel, incoming chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, said that "we need answers about why the administration has behaved the way it has in the wake of [the Khashoggi] incident."

Statements released by Representatives:

- . Reps. Pocan, Khanna, McGovern: "The stakes in Yemen have never been higher and the time for action is long overdue. The United States is unconstitutionally participating in a Saudi-led war that could starve 14 million Yemenis to death. This week, the Senate will vote on Sens. Sanders, Lee and Murphy's S.J.Res. 54 to end all U.S. involvement in this catastrophic Saudi military campaign, as 30 former Obama Administration officials have publicly urged."
- . Rep. Lieu: "I commend the Senate for advancing a bipartisan resolution to end U.S. support for the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen. It's insane that Congress has gone this long without taking formal action to curb U.S. involvement in atrocities committed in Yemen. Thank you to the 63 senators who today took a step towards saying 'enough is enough.' Unfortunately, due to inaction in the House, we're still a long way from getting the Administration to stop U.S. participation in possible war crimes. There's a hunger among the soon-to-be Majority Democrats in the House to take action and I look forward to pushing for change."

See attachment for tweets by House members.

-----Original Message-----

From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018 10:20 AM
To: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)
Cc: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Subject: Re: ANOTHER QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

Indeed. The team will meet your deadline and criteria.

Best

Dana

Ms. Dana W. White

ATSD/PA

(b)(6) _____

> On Dec 10, 2018, at 10:14 AM, Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6) wrote:

>

> Thanks, Dana. (b)(5)

> (b)(5)

>

>

> Hope that help clarifies the RFI.

>

> William G. Bushman

> Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense

(b)(6) _____

>

>

> ----Original Message----

> From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)

> Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018 10:06 AM

> To: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)

> Cc: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis

> (b)(6) _____

>

>

>

> Subject: Re: ANOTHER QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

>

> Will

> I think we already pulled this together right after the hearing. We can do
an update.

> Dana

>

> Ms. Dana W. White

> ATSD/PA

(b)(6) _____

>

>> On Dec 10, 2018, at 9:46 AM, Bushman, William SES SD

> (b)(6) wrote:

>>

>> Thanks, all. Unfortunately, excellent work often leads to more work...

>>

>> Follow-up request: (b)(5) _____

> (b)(5) _____

>

>

>

>>

>> Also, quick turn request on this. Can we get something by 1230?
>>
>> Thanks,
>> Will
>>
>> William G. Bushman
>> Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
>> (b)(6)
>>
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
>> Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 12:41 PM
>> To: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6) OSD Pentagon PA
> Mailbox
>> Media Analysis (b)(6)
(b)(6)
>(b)(6)
>> Cc:(b)(6)
>>(b)(6)
>>
>> Subject: RE: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
>>
>> (b)(6) has got you covered Bushman! Safe travels...Call me if
> anything
>> crazy happens.
>> Dana
>>
>> Dana W. White
>> Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
>> Public Affairs
>> Office: (b)(6)
>> E-mail (b)(6)
>>
>> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DoDOutreach>
>> Website: www.knowyourmilitary.osd.mil
>> Join the conversation: #KnowYourMil
>> @ChiefPentSpox
>>
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)
>> Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 12:03 PM
>> To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
>>(b)(6)
(b)(6)
>(b)(6)
>> Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
(b)(6)
>
>
>
>>
>> Subject: Re: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
>>
>> Thanks, all. Great work on short timeline.
>>
>>

>> Sent from Mobile Device
>>
>> _____
>>
>> From: "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis"
>>(b)(6)
>> [REDACTED]
>> Date: Friday, December 7, 2018 at 11:52:21 AM
>> To: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
>>(b)(6)
>> Cc: "White, Dana W SES OSD (US)"(b)(6)
>>(b)(6) >, "Bushman, William SES SD"
>>(b)(6)
>
>
>
>
>
>> (b)(6) "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media
>> Analysis"(b)(6)
>> (b)(6)
>> Subject: RE: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
>>
>>
>>
>> OVERVIEW: Negative Senate reaction to Sec. Mattis and Sec. Pompeo's
> Nov. 28
>> briefing focused on their remarks regarding the U.S.-Saudi relationship in
> the
>> aftermath of Jamal Khashoggi's murder. Senators frequently connected their
>
>> choice to deny U.S. support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen to how
> transparent
>> the administration is about who was responsible for the journalist's
> death,
>> specifically citing CIA Director Gina Haspel's absence. Additionally,
> senators
>> questioned the wisdom of maintaining close relations with Riyadh, doubting
>
>> Mohammed bin Salman's innocence in the matter and his ability serve U.S.
>> interests as an ally.
>>
>> . Sen. Bob Corker: "What I would argue to the administration is that
> somehow
>> or another there's got to be a price to pay for what has happened . My
> sense
>> is, unless something happens - where they share what it is they're going
> to do
>> to deal with this injustice that has occurred - my sense is that people
> are
>> going to vote to get on the bill."
>> . Sen. Lindsey Graham: "The question for me is whether or not the CIA
>> supports the conclusion, with a high degree of confidence, that the crown
>> prince was complicit in the murder of Mr Khashoggi . I'm not going to be
>> denied the ability to be briefed by the CIA."

>> . Sen. Mike Lee: "The bloodshed continues, still abetted by the United
>> States, even amidst further revelations of Saudi depravity."
>> . Sen. Chris Murphy: "The Saudis have gone off the rails. They've
> killed more
>> civilians this year than any year prior in the Yemen war . They obviously
> made
>> a giant strategic error in abducting and murdering Jamal Khashoggi. So, a
> lot
>> has changed in the last few months to get us to this point."
>> . Sen. Chris Murphy: "[Sec. Mattis and Pompeo] lost votes this morning
> . They
>> just had no good answers for why Gina Haspel wasn't there. They had no
> plan to
>> end the war in Yemen."
>> . Sen. Tim Kaine: "We sent an important message today - that Congress
> will
>> stand up to Saudi leadership when the Trump administration won't, and that
>
>> Saudi Arabia will face consequences for the murder of Virginia resident
> Jamal
>> Khashoggi as well as for the disastrous war in Yemen."
>> . Sen. Bob Menendez: "No, First of all, as it relates to Jamal
> Khashoggi, the
>> fact that Gina Haspel, the CIA director, was not there despite bipartisan
>> calls for her to be there and to testify as to what her agency and other
>> intelligence agencies' conclusions were was pretty outrageous. My view -
> it's
>> a cover-up of a critical question that we have as it relates to U.S.-Saudi
>
>> relationships."
>> . Sen. Richard Durbin: "The administration position was defended by
> both of
>> them in terms of what we had done naming 17 people who would suffer
> because we
>> believed they were involved. But there was no satisfying answer about how
> it
>> is possible that this could have occurred without the crown prince's
> knowledge
>> or direction."
>>
>> Following a briefing by CIA Director Gina Haspel, senators said it
> contrasted
>> sharply with the one by Secs. Mattis and Pompeo.
>>
>> . Sen. Corker: "If [the crown prince] went in front of a jury, he would
> be
>> convicted in 30 minutes."
>> . Sen. Graham: "There is not a smoking gun. There is a smoking saw.
>> . Sen. Graham: Secs. Mattis and Pompeo were "following the lead of the
>> president" and were being "good soldiers."
>> . Sen. Menendez: "I am now more convinced than I was before -- and I
> was
>> pretty convinced -- that in fact the United States must have a strong
> response
>> to both the war in Yemen as well as the killing of a United States
> permanent
>> resident and journalist. Only a strong response by the United States will

>> Pentagon (b)(6)
>> NIPR: (b)(6)
>(b)(6)
>> SIPR: (b)(6)
>> (b)(6)
>> Office: (b)(6)
>> Cell: (b)(6)
>>
>>
>> CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
>>
>>



OSD Public Affairs RESEARCH & ANALYSIS

MEDIA COVERAGE | HOUSE RESPONSE TO SAUDI BRIEFINGS NOVEMBER 26-DECEMBER 10 2018

OVERVIEW: House reaction to the all-Senate briefings by Sec. Mattis, Sec. Pompeo, and CIA Director Gina Haspel was notably less voluminous than that of senators. With the notable exception of Speaker Paul Ryan, current leadership did not weigh in on the issue. Congressmen with a long-running interest in the conflict, such as Reps. Lieu and Pocan, released statements and tweets on Jamal Khashoggi and the war in Yemen, all of which called into question the strategic wisdom, moral consequences, and legality of continuing U.S. involvement in the conflict.

Comments from Representatives appearing in the media:

- Rep. Paul Ryan said the Yemen resolution “isn’t the way to go” and instead he favored invoking the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, which gives the U.S. government the power to impose sanctions for human rights abuses. “Yes, we have lots of strategic interests in alignment with the Saudis, no two ways about it,” Ryan said. “Still, we can speak with moral clarity. We can take actions that address these issues.”
- Rep. Chris Stewart defended President Trump’s response to Khashoggi’s death, saying, “We have to have a relationship with some players we don’t agree with ... Journalists disappear all over the country.”
- Rep. John Curtis said in a House speech: “In addition to the horrendous humanitarian cost in Yemen itself, it makes the entire region less secure and makes humanitarian disasters in the wider region more likely. But more importantly, what’s happening in Yemen is just simply wrong. It’s not in harmony with our values and, ironically, the very reason we want a strong ally in Saudi Arabia is to prevent this type of situation, not foster it.”
- Rep. Mark Pocan said a strong vote in the Senate would ramp up pressure on the Republican leadership to allow a vote. “If that doesn’t happen, we will in the next Congress be in a better position to move it forward ... We’re just on the cusp of doing the right thing,” he added.
- Rep. Eliot Engel, incoming chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, said that “we need answers about why the administration has behaved the way it has in the wake of [the Khashoggi] incident.”

Statements released by Representatives:

- Reps. Pocan, Khanna, McGovern: “The stakes in Yemen have never been higher and the time for action is long overdue. The United States is unconstitutionally participating in a Saudi-led war that could starve 14 million Yemenis to death. This week, the Senate will vote on Sens. Sanders, Lee and Murphy’s S.J.Res. 54 to end all U.S. involvement in this catastrophic Saudi military campaign, as 30 former Obama Administration officials have publicly urged.”
- Rep. Lieu: “I commend the Senate for advancing a bipartisan resolution to end U.S. support for the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen. It’s insane that Congress has gone this long without taking formal action to curb U.S. involvement in atrocities committed in Yemen. Thank you to the 63 senators who today took a step towards saying ‘enough is enough.’ Unfortunately, due to inaction in the House, we’re still a long way from getting the Administration to stop U.S. participation in possible war crimes ... There’s a hunger among the soon-to-be Majority Democrats in the House to take action and I look forward to pushing for change.”

See below for tweets by House members

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1. GOP lawmaker defends Trump's Khashoggi response: Journalists disappear all over the country – 12/5
CNN / Paul LeBlanc

Rep. Chris Stewart on Tuesday defended President Donald Trump's response to the death of Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi in the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul in October, saying that "journalists disappear all over the country."

"We have to have a relationship with some players we don't agree with," the Utah Republican told CNN's Brianna Keilar on "CNN Right Now." "Journalists disappear all over the country."

"This is a very, very difficult challenge because we have to, on one hand, hold them accountable -- including the crown prince for whatever action he may have been involved with," Stewart added. "And at the same time what is protecting US interests? What is going to counter Shia extremists? What is going to help bring stability? What will help bring an end to the war in Yemen? You have to balance all those considerations as we move forward on this."

After being subjected to massive international pressure, Saudi officials admitted the death of Khashoggi was a premeditated murder.

Trump responded to the incident in a statement last month subtitled "America First!" that called Khashoggi's murder "terrible" but declared Saudi Arabia "a great ally."

Stewart expanded on his comments Tuesday evening on Twitter, adding that the US "cannot brush aside the murder of any journalist."

"As the leader of the free world we have to accomplish two goals; defend human rights while also attempting to maintain important relationships with key allies that we hope will help us bring stability to critical parts of the world," he said. "We should always strive to do both."

Earlier Tuesday, lawmakers were briefed by CIA Director Gina Haspel about the incident.

Sen. Bob Corker, a Tennessee Republican who chairs the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, told CNN after the briefing with Haspel that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman "ordered, monitored, the killing" of Khashoggi.

When pressed on Trump's dismissive response to the incident, Stewart added, "I think all of us agree there needs to be an appropriate response here, we need to hold individuals accountable and we need to completely understand the facts regarding that as well."

--CNN's Manu Raju, Ted Barrett, Elizabeth Landers and Jim Acosta contributed to this report.

2. Paul Ryan lists immigration, debt as biggest regrets – 11/29

Associated Press / Scott Bauer

MADISON, Wis. — Outgoing House Speaker Paul Ryan on Thursday named immigration and the national debt as his two biggest regrets as he prepares to leave office after 20 years in Congress, saying he has no immediate plans to return to public office.

The Republican lawmaker from Wisconsin, the 2012 vice presidential nominee, sat for an interview with The Washington Post as he prepares to step down. Ryan also delivered one of his final floor speeches, thanking his staff and voters of his Wisconsin congressional district, where he first won election in 1998 at age 28.

In a break with the GOP-controlled Senate, Ryan said he opposes a resolution passed there calling for an end to U.S. involvement in the Yemen war, led by Saudi Arabia. Congress has been debating how to punish Saudi Arabia for its role in the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

Ryan said the Yemen resolution "isn't the way to go" and instead he favored invoking the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, which gives the U.S. government the power to impose sanctions for human rights abuses.

"Yes, we have lots of strategic interests in alignment with the Saudis, no two ways about it," Ryan said. "Still, we can speak with moral clarity. We can take actions that address these issues."

Ryan sidestepped questions about his sometimes contentious relationship with President Donald Trump. But he bemoaned what he said was Trump's "hostile" relationship with the media. He said that "tribalism" among Republicans and Democrats is "getting out of control" because "polarization sells."

"That tribalism in our country, to me, is our undoing," Ryan said. "Yes, the president has a hostile relationship with the press, no two ways about it. But that's the new norm in this day and age."

The interview came in the midst of a budget showdown with Trump over funding for Trump's promised wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. Ryan said he does not think Trump wants a government shutdown and "our hope is that we can get a successful conclusion." He said the onus will be on the White House and Senate Democrats to find common ground on a budget bill.

"He thinks the issue of border security is a winner," Ryan said of Trump. "I don't think he sees a shutdown as a winner. I think he sees border security as a winner. ... We don't want to have a shutdown. I have no interest in doing that. That makes no sense."

As for his regrets, Ryan cited not paying off the national debt and failing to pass an immigration overhaul. If those can be solved, Ryan said, "we will have a great 21st century."

Still, Ryan said he thought "history is going to be very good to this majority" because of the tax overhaul passed under his leadership and increased funding for the military. Critics have said the tax changes benefit the wealthy at the expense of the middle class.

Ryan was elected speaker in 2015 after publicly saying he had no interest in the job. Ryan said that's in contrast with Rep. Nancy Pelosi, who has been bargaining with Democrats to secure their support for her to succeed Ryan.

"I could do it on my terms," Ryan said. "This is the benefit Nancy does not now have, and I think it's regretful. ... Our members knew I didn't need it, didn't necessarily want it but was happy to do it joyfully and happily and I'm really glad I did."

Ryan said when he saw Pelosi recently he offered her congratulations and condolences.

Ryan is leaving office as Mitt Romney, who picked Ryan as his running mate in the 2012 presidential election, prepares to join the Senate representing Utah. Ryan said he looks to Romney to be the "standard bearer of our principles."

Republican Bryan Steil, a corporate attorney and former Ryan aide, won election in November to succeed him in Wisconsin.

Ryan, 48, did not say what he plans to do after leaving Congress, other than to take his wife on a beach vacation. When asked if he would ever be interested in serving as ambassador to Ireland, Ryan, who has Irish ancestry, said: "That's the only other government job I would aspire to, in my 60s, to be ambassador of Ireland."

3. Rep Lieu Statement On Senate Resolution To End U.S. Support Of Saudi-Led Coalition In Yemen - 11/28 *Press Release / Rep. Ted Lieu*

WASHINGTON - Today, Congressman Ted W. Lieu (D-Los Angeles County) issued the following statement after the Senate voted to advance a bipartisan resolution to revoke U.S. support for the Saudi-led military campaign in Yemen.

"I commend the Senate for advancing a bipartisan resolution to end U.S. support for the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen. It's insane that Congress has gone this long without taking formal action to curb U.S. involvement in atrocities committed in Yemen. Thank you to the 63 senators who today took a step towards saying 'enough is enough.' Unfortunately, due to inaction in the House, we're still a long way from getting the Administration to stop U.S. participation in possible war crimes. I'm continually dismayed by current House Leadership's unwillingness to act. There's a hunger among the soon-to-be Majority Democrats in the House to take action and I look forward to pushing for change."

4. Utah Sen. Mike Lee and Rep. John Curtis want U.S. involvement in the war in Yemen to end - 11/29 *Salt Lake Tribune / Thomas Burr*

Washington - Utah's members of Congress are split on whether the United States should pull support for the Saudi Arabia-fueled war in Yemen that is blamed for tens of thousands of deaths.

Sen. Mike Lee and Rep. John Curtis spoke fervently about ending U.S. involvement in the civil war – a position at odds with President Donald Trump, who has defended Saudi leaders despite evidence, including from the CIA, that the crown prince directed the murder of a journalist who wrote for The Washington Post. Trump's administration has said ending the U.S. role in Yemen could undermine the relationship with Saudi Arabia.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defense James Mattis were dispatched to Capitol Hill on Wednesday to thwart a Senate vote on legislation to end U.S. support, though the Senate voted 63-37 on a resolution calling for the United States to pull out.

Lee voted to end the United States' efforts to back the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen while Sen. Orrin Hatch voted against the bill. Lee singled out the murder of U.S.-based journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who had been critical of Saudi leaders and was reportedly killed in a Saudi embassy in Turkey and dismembered at the behest of the Saudi kingdom.

"This is not an ally that deserves our support or military intervention on its behalf, especially when our own security is not itself on the line," Lee said on the Senate floor. "On the contrary, to continue supporting them in this war would be bad diplomacy and undermine our very credibility."

"It appears that our involvement in Yemen accomplishes no good at all – only harm, and serious consequential harm at that," Lee added. "The situation in Yemen now poses a true humanitarian crisis. The country is on the brink of rampant disease and mass starvation. An estimated 15 million people don't have access to clean water and sanitation, and 17 million don't have access to food. More innocent lives are being lost every single day."

Hatch said through a spokesman that while he has serious concerns about Saudi actions, it's not enough to unravel a long-standing relationship with a country in a region where the United States needs allies.

"While Senator Hatch believes the vicious murder of Jamal Khashoggi warrants a response, he agrees with Secretaries Mattis and Pompeo that it must not come at the expense of critical alliances," said spokesman Matt Whitlock. "The

Senator voted against the Yemen resolution because he staunchly opposes that kind of withdrawal from the region under current circumstances."

Rep. John Curtis, R-Utah, took to the House floor on Thursday to rail against America's continued involvement in the war, arguing that it only fuels resentment of the United States in the region.

"It will diminish U.S. security and undermine America's moral authority and reputation as a champion of our foundational values such as human rights and civil liberties," Curtis said. "In addition to the horrendous humanitarian cost in Yemen itself, it makes the entire region less secure and makes humanitarian disasters in the wider region more likely. But more importantly, what's happening in Yemen is just simply wrong. It's not in harmony with our values and, ironically, the very reason we want a strong ally in Saudi Arabia is to prevent this type of situation, not foster it."

Rep. Chris Stewart, a fellow Utah Republican, said he's not sure Congress has authorized military action in Yemen but that he's not sure ending it will make anything better.

"Because of this, I've always been reluctant to expand our use of military there," Stewart said. "But a human tragedy is unfolding before us because of the proxy war between Iran and Saudi Arabia and the U.S. is in the best position to help end the conflict."

Rep. Mia Love, R-Utah, was unavailable to comment, her office said. Rep. Rob Bishop's office didn't respond to a question about his position.

5. Senate Vote Is Rebuke to White House Over Trump's Handling of Khashoggi Killing - 11/28

Wall Street Journal | Kristina Peterson and Courtney McBride

WASHINGTON—The Republican-led Senate dealt a rebuke Wednesday to the White House, voting to advance a measure to withdraw U.S. support for Saudi-led forces in Yemen and defying top administration officials who just hours earlier had urged the lawmakers to do the opposite.

The 63-37 vote underscored the senators' frustration over President Trump's reluctance to hold Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman responsible for the early October killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi by Saudi agents in the country's consulate in Istanbul.

"The fact that we haven't forced [the crown prince] to come clean is creating a problem," said Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Corker (R., Tenn.) Mr. Corker said he supported the measure in its initial vote Wednesday because it "allows us to somehow or other to address this since the administration appears unwilling to do so."

Mr. Trump has repeatedly dismissed U.S. intelligence conclusions that the Saudi crown prince ordered the killing of the dissident journalist. Mr. Trump suggested the U.S. wouldn't impose further punishment on Saudi Arabia over the killing and said it was unknowable whether the crown prince had ordered it.

The president's position infuriated many lawmakers, who criticized the White House for prioritizing strategic and economic ties with the Kingdom over American human-rights values. Lawmakers are also concerned over Saudi Arabia's military conduct in its U.S.-backed fight in Yemen.

Mr. Corker had previously opposed the resolution to withdraw U.S. military support from the Yemen conflict, which pits a Saudi-led coalition against Iran-allied Houthi militants and has produced the world's worst humanitarian disaster. Sen. Bob Menendez of New Jersey, the top Democrat on the foreign relations panel, also flipped to support the resolution.

"I did not support it originally because I wanted to give the administration and the Department of Defense an opportunity to show me that our efforts were actually making a difference in the humanitarian catastrophe that is Yemen," Mr. Menendez told reporters Wednesday. "Since then, all I have seen is the bombing of a school bus full of children, a series of other civilian targets bombed...that is not something I want the U.S. involved with."

Wednesday's efforts by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defense Secretary Jim Mattis to persuade senators to oppose the resolution appeared to backfire. Lawmakers left the closed-doors briefing incensed that Gina Haspel, director of the CIA, hadn't also appeared to discuss the intelligence community's assessment of Mr. Khashoggi's killing.

"They did not win any votes in that hearing. The fact that Gina Haspel was not there was incredibly damaging," said Sen. Chris Murphy (D., Conn.), who co-sponsored the Yemen resolution along with Sens. Bernie Sanders (I., Vt.) and Mike Lee (R., Utah.) "I'm more confident after that briefing that we have the votes," Mr. Murphy said.

CIA Press Secretary Timothy Barrett said the agency had already thoroughly briefed other congressional committees on Mr. Khashoggi.

"The notion that anyone told Director Haspel not to attend today's briefing is false," Mr. Barrett said.

Mr. Pompeo, appearing frustrated at times, told reporters in the Capitol after the briefing that the congressional effort "is just poorly timed," given the effort by United Nations envoy Martin Griffiths to convene the parties to the conflict for peace talks in Sweden.

"So it's the view of the administration, Secretary Mattis and myself, that passing a resolution at this point undermines that," Mr. Pompeo said.

The Senate last voted on the resolution in March, when it was blocked in a 55-44 vote.

The administration on Wednesday held on to support from some Republicans, who have worried that withdrawing U.S. support from Saudi Arabia in Yemen could embolden Iran in the region.

"Both secretaries made a pretty convincing case that as outrageous as the behavior is, it would be counterproductive to do that in terms of what they're trying to accomplish," said Sen. Ron Johnson (R., Wis.), who said he would oppose the Yemen measure.

Mr. Mattis had argued that even though Saudi Arabia was an imperfect ally, withdrawing U.S. support would only harm the international effort to secure an end to the conflict.

"Senators, I know all too well the difficulty in reconciling human aspirations with war's grim reality; but I also recognize that we cannot limit civilian casualties or advance the peace effort commencing early next month in Sweden by disengaging," Mr. Mattis said in his prepared remarks.

Even if the Yemen resolution passes the Senate, it faces a less receptive atmosphere in the House. Rep. Ro Khanna (D., Calif.) introduced a similar resolution in the House earlier this year, but House GOP leaders blocked a vote on it earlier this month.

"Iran bears a lot of responsibility. And it's in our national security interest to contain Iran and their proxy wars and their pursuit of nuclear weapons," House Speaker Paul Ryan (R., Wis.) told reporters Wednesday. He also emphasized the importance "holding people accountable" for the killing of Mr. Khashoggi, but didn't say how that should be accomplished.

6. Senate to vote on U.S. military role in Yemen amid anger over Saudi-led war, Khashoggi murder - 11/28 USA Today / Deirdre Shesgreen

WASHINGTON – The Senate is poised to vote as early as Wednesday on a proposal to force the Trump administration to withdraw U. S. military support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen – a horrific conflict that has become increasingly controversial in the wake of Jamal Khashoggi's murder inside a Saudi consulate last month.

Before the Senate takes up that measure, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis will deliver a classified briefing on Wednesday to senators on Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Khashoggi's murder. That closed-door briefing could turn contentious, with lawmakers demanding the Trump administration take more aggressive action against Saudi Arabia for its role in the Washington Post columnist's death.

Many lawmakers believe that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ordered Khashoggi's murder, although the Saudi government has denied that and President Donald Trump has cast doubt on the CIA reported conclusions that the crown prince was involved. The administration has sanctioned 17 Saudi nationals it says were involved in Khashoggi's killing, but Trump said last week that he does not want to mete out any additional punishment.

Pompeo and Mattis can expect fierce pushback on that position, and their answers to lawmakers could determine the fate of the Yemen war resolution.

"There's got to be a price to pay for what has happened," said Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He said unless the two Cabinet secretaries spell out a more forceful response to Khashoggi's death, he may vote in favor of ending U.S. support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen — a step he has opposed in the past.

"This injustice has occurred," the Tennessee Republican said, "and so far, the administration doesn't appear to" be prepared to respond adequately.

The vote — which is expected to be close — presents a key test of lawmakers' willingness to counter Trump on a major foreign policy matter.

Supporters say the measure is a vital step toward Congress reasserting its authority on matters of war after years of ceding such decisions to the president. It would also rebuke Saudi Arabia for its conduct in Yemen — which has sparked what UN officials say is the world's worst humanitarian crisis and led to thousands of civilian deaths.

"This unauthorized, unconstitutional war ... is not something we ought to be fighting," Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, said Sunday on NBC's Meet the Press. Lee introduced the Yemen resolution with liberal Sens. Bernie Sanders, I-Vermont, and Chris Murphy, D-Connecticut.

"This is not an ally that deserves this kind of military intervention, especially because there's been no connection between the safety of the American people and our involvement in this war," Lee added.

Opponents of the war powers resolution say the Trump administration has the legal authority to support the Saudi-led military campaign in Yemen — citing previous use-of-force authorizations that Congress approved in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and others have also argued the U.S. needs to be involved in Yemen to counter Iran, which is supporting the Houthi rebels in that country.

"I think it puts our alliances in jeopardy," Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. said. He also argued that the U.S. role, which involves providing logistical assistance, munitions, and intelligence to the Saudi coalition, did not rise to the level of being engaged in warfare.

The war in Yemen is a proxy battle between Saudi Arabia and Iran, as the two regimes battle for influence in the region. In addition to the death toll, the conflict has put millions of Yemenis on the brink of starvation — increasing pressure on the Trump administration to wind down its involvement.

In recent weeks, the U.S. has stopped refueling Saudi jets and pressed both sides to negotiate an end to the conflict. But critics in Congress say those steps are not enough, and Khashoggi's murder has galvanized opponents to press for a complete U.S. withdraw.

"It has exposed the Saudi government to be a brutal, despotic regime which will do anything to anybody to maintain its influence and power," Sanders told USA TODAY. Sanders said Khashoggi's death has won him additional "yes" votes on the Yemen resolution, though he declined to say how many or identify the lawmakers.

The last time the Senate voted to halt the U.S. military role in Yemen, in March, the measure was defeated by a vote of 44-to-55. At the time, the crown prince was at the White House meeting with Trump as part of a public-relations blitz by the 33-year-old crown prince across the country. Today, the Saudis face a more hostile political climate, with bipartisan anger over Khashoggi's murder, deep skepticism of the crown prince's denials, and growing unease over Yemen.

Even if the Lee-Sanders measure passes the Senate, it's unlikely to clear the House, where the GOP majority recently blocked debate over a similar measure. Rep. Mark Pocan, D-Wis., co-sponsor of the House proposal, said a strong vote in the Senate would ramp up pressure on the Republican leadership to allow a vote, though he conceded it's would be an uphill fight.

"If that doesn't happen, we will in the next Congress be in a better position to move it forward," Pocan said, noting that Democrats will have the majority come January. "We're just on the cusp of doing the right thing," he added.

7. Reps. Pocan, Khanna, McGovern Encourage Senate to Pass Upcoming Yemen War Powers Resolution - 11/27

Press Release / Rep. Mark Pocan

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, U.S. Representatives Mark Pocan (WI-02), Ro Khanna (CA-17), and Jim McGovern (MA-02), leaders of H. Con Res. 138, issued the below statement in light of recent GOP efforts to block the resolution's vote in the House and the impending Senate vote this week:

"The stakes in Yemen have never been higher and the time for action is long overdue. The United States is unconstitutionally participating in a Saudi-led war that could starve 14 million Yemenis to death. This week, the Senate will vote on Sens. Sanders, Lee and Murphy's S.J.Res. 54 to end all U.S. involvement in this catastrophic Saudi military campaign, as 30 former Obama Administration officials have publicly urged.

"We encourage all of our Senate Democratic colleagues to unite around this measure in order to ensure its passage this week, and we intend to follow suit by promptly passing a similar War Powers Resolution in the House. We are proud of the leadership and unity of our Democratic colleagues, including Leader Pelosi, Whip Hoyer, and Ranking Members Smith, Engel, Schiff, Lowey and Nadler, who are among the 90 cosponsors of the bipartisan H.Con.Res. 138, which also directs the President to end the unauthorized U.S.-Saudi war. We look forward to the continued support of House Democrats as we urgently work to reassert Congressional authority over war and ease the suffering of millions of innocent people."

8. Trump's foreign policy agenda faces a gauntlet of House Democrats led by New York's Eliot Engel - 11/26

USA Today / Deirdre Shesgreen

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump may not see Congress as a threat to his foreign policy agenda, even as Democrats prepare to take control of the House of Representatives after the midterm elections Nov. 6.

But Rep. Eliot Engel, a mild-mannered Democrat from the Bronx, is drawing up an aggressive oversight plan for January, when he is likely to take the gavel of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

First on his priority list: getting Secretary of State Mike Pompeo at his witness table after Trump's chief diplomat "snubbed" the panel this year. Next up: a wide-ranging examination of Trump's ties to Russia and an investigation into how the president's business interests have intersected with his foreign policy decisions, among other matters.

The Trump administration has shown that it will "do the minimum possible to interact with Congress" and that it sees the State Department "as the enemy," Engel told USA TODAY in an interview previewing his plans for next year. "I'm not going to accept that."

The president's defense of Saudi Arabia may come under particularly quick and close scrutiny in the wake of the murder of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi. The Post reported that the CIA concluded that Saudi Arabia's crown prince, Mohammad bin Salman, ordered Khashoggi's killing. Trump emphasized Salman's denials and questioned the CIA's assessment.

Engel blasted Trump for casting doubt on the CIA's assessment in the Khashoggi case and said it was reminiscent of his friendly stance toward Russian President Vladimir Putin, despite the U. S. intelligence community's conclusions that the Kremlin orchestrated a campaign to sway the 2016 U. S. presidential race.

"We saw him do it with Putin, and now he wants to downplay a horrific murder," Engel said in a statement last week after Trump said he would work to preserve the U. S. -Saudi alliance. "We need answers about why the administration has behaved the way it has in the wake of this incident."

The Trump administration has made Saudi Arabia a linchpin of its foreign policy – relying on the kingdom to keep oil prices low as the United States ratchets up sanctions on Iran and hoping to win Saudi support for its Middle East peace

plan. Engel is a staunch supporter of Israel, and he shares the administration's views that Iran presents a threat to Middle East stability.

But the New York Democrat said he wants to make sure the Saudis realize they don't have a "blank check" from the United States to commit human rights abuses.

It's not clear how cooperative the Trump administration will be as it faces the new Democratic House majority. Robert Palladino, the State Department's deputy spokesman, said Pompeo has "great respect" for Congress' oversight role, noting that he served in the House as a three-term representative from Kansas.

"As a former member, Secretary Pompeo has always made sure that he provides the information Congress deserves," Palladino said. "Since assuming his responsibilities as secretary of state, we have been transparent and have met our obligations. We will continue to do so."

A week after Democrats' election victory, Pompeo paid Engel a visit on Capitol Hill, a move the congressman took as a positive sign. Trump and Engel have not had many interactions, despite their shared connection to New York.

The president has wide latitude to execute U. S. foreign policy. Congress can play a powerful role by convening high-profile hearings and conducting investigations. Perhaps more importantly, lawmakers can use their funding powers to force policy changes – whether that means pumping up U. S. foreign assistance for allies or defunding U. S. military support to Saudi Arabia in its Yemen bombing campaign.

Aside from enacting a new Russia sanctions law, the Republican-controlled Congress has not significantly challenged Trump's approach to U. S. foreign policy – offering limited pushback as the president launched a trade war with China, threatened to unravel longtime U. S. alliances and embraced dictators from North Korea to Russia.

Come January, that could change under the Democrats.

"For the first time, we're likely to see robust hearings, briefings, requests for information and, if necessary, even subpoenas on a wide variety of issues," said Michael Fuchs, a former State Department official in the Obama administration and a foreign policy expert at the liberal Center for American Progress.

"At the very least," Fuchs said, "that will mean more information is being pushed out into public."

One prime example: Congress requested briefings on the Trump administration's negotiations with North Korea but received little to no information on what, if any, progress has been made in persuading its leader, Kim Jong Un, to relinquish his nuclear arsenal.

Senior lawmakers demanded details of what Trump and Putin discussed during their controversial closed-door meeting in July in Helsinki. They want an assessment of Saudi Arabia's role in the murder of Khashoggi.

"I'm going to ask for briefings on lots of things," Engel said.

"My goal is not to embarrass the president," he said. Rather, he said, it's to make sure that Congress is treated as a co-equal branch of government and is given a voice on foreign policy.

Many of the issues Engel wants to look into could put the president on the spot. The prospective committee chairman said he would like to examine whether Trump's business income from his marquee hotels and his other holdings violates anti-corruption provisions of the Constitution. Those provisions bar the president and other U. S. government officials from accepting payments from foreign governments.

"That's natural for us to look into," Engel said.

He promised to be evenhanded in his oversight, as long as the State Department and the White House cooperate with the committee's requests for testimony and documents. He said he's ready to use all his leverage if not.

"I'm going to fight tooth and nail to make sure we're part of the process, we're respected and that our input is taken seriously," he said.

TWEETS OF NOTE

Rep. John Curtis (R-UT), @RepJohnCurtis

- In addition to the horrendous humanitarian cost in #Yemen itself, it makes the entire region less secure and makes humanitarian disasters in the wider region more likely. Time to rethink our involvement. (11/30, 1319)

Rep. Lloyd Doggett (D-TX), @RepLloydDoggett

- "As we called for in the House effort I led, we must end weapons sales, stop shielding the Saudi royal family, and bring a long-overdue end to U.S. support for Saudi atrocities in Yemen." (12/5, 1406)

Rep. Ro Khanna (D-CA), @RoKhanna

- "Lawmakers, please read this report of @NickKristof from Yemen. We must stop the war. 'I find the American & Saudi role in this conflict unconscionable. The Houthis are untrustworthy...but this is not a reason to bomb & starve Yemini children.'" (12/7, 0742)
- "CIA Director Gina Haspel confirms what has been obvious for a long time: the Saudi Crown Prince personally directed the brutal murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi. We must send the regime a message and end our involvement in their brutal war in Yemen." (12/5, 0939)

Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA), @tedlieu

- "Dear @SaudiEmbassyUSA: Three simple questions for you to answer: --Have you listened to the audio of Khashoggi's torture, murder and dismemberment in your embassy in Turkey? --Where is Khashoggi's body? --Are you done lying to the American people and Congress yet?" (12/10, 0218)

Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), @RepMaloney

- "The US must stop aiding Saudi Arabia's outrageous war in Yemen. I'm supporting bipartisan resolutions to withdraw our forces from this war & it is long past time that these measures get a vote. We should be aiding this country's growth, not destruction" (12/7, 1243)
- "The war in Yemen is a humanitarian crisis. I have called for the US to stop sending arms to the perpetrators of this violence." (12/7, 1616)

Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI), @repmarkpocan

- "'After a major famine, there is always soul-searching about how the world could have allowed this to happen. What's needed this time is not soul-searching a few years from now, but action today to end the war and prevent a cataclysm.' Congress must act." (12/8, 1055)

From: Bushman, William SES SD
To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US)
Cc: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis; (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: ANOTHER QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Monday, December 10, 2018 10:08:43 AM

OK. Thanks!

William G. Bushman
Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018 10:06 AM
To: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)
Cc: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
(b)(6)

Subject: Re: ANOTHER QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

Will

I think we already pulled this together right after the hearing. We can do an update.

Dana

Ms. Dana W. White
ATSD/PA

(b)(6)

> On Dec 10, 2018, at 9:46 AM, Bushman, William SES SD
(b)(6)
>
> Thanks, all. Unfortunately, excellent work often leads to more work...
>
> Follow-up request: (b)(5)
(b)(5)
>
> Also, quick turn request on this. Can we get something by 1230?
>
> Thanks,
> Will
>
> William G. Bushman
> Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
> (b)(6)
>

> -----Original Message-----
> From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
> Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 12:41 PM
> To: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6); OSD Pentagon PA
Mailbox
> Media Analysis (b)(6)
(b)(6)
> Cc: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
>
> Subject: RE: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
>
> (b)(6) has got you covered Bushman! Safe travels...Call me if
anything
> crazy happens.
> Dana
>
> Dana W. White
> Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
> Public Affairs
> Office (b)(6)
> E-mail (b)(6)
>
> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DoDOutreach>
> Website: www.knowyourmilitary.osd.mil
> Join the conversation: #KnowYourMil
> @ChiefPentSpox
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)
> Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 12:03 PM
> To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
> (b)(6)
(b)(6)
> Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
(b)(6)

> Subject: Re: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
>
> Thanks, all. Great work on short timeline.
>
>
> Sent from Mobile Device
>
>
>
> _____
>
>
> From: "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis"
> (b)(6)
>
> Date: Friday, December 7, 2018 at 11:52:21 AM

> To: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

> Cc: "White, Dana W SES OSD (US)" (b)(6)

(b)(6) >, "Bushman, William SES SD"

(b)(6)

(b)(6) "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media

> Analysis" (b)(6)

(b)(6)

> Subject: RE: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

>

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>

> OVERVIEW: Negative Senate reaction to Sec. Mattis and Sec. Pompeo's Nov. 28

> briefing focused on their remarks regarding the U.S.-Saudi relationship in the

> aftermath of Jamal Khashoggi's murder. Senators frequently connected their

> choice to deny U.S. support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen to how transparent

> the administration is about who was responsible for the journalist's death,

> specifically citing CIA Director Gina Haspel's absence. Additionally, senators

> questioned the wisdom of maintaining close relations with Riyadh, doubting

> Mohammed bin Salman's innocence in the matter and his ability serve U.S. interests as an ally.

>

> . Sen. Bob Corker: "What I would argue to the administration is that somehow

> or another there's got to be a price to pay for what has happened . My sense

> is, unless something happens - where they share what it is they're going to do

> to deal with this injustice that has occurred - my sense is that people are

> going to vote to get on the bill."

> . Sen. Lindsey Graham: "The question for me is whether or not the CIA supports the conclusion, with a high degree of confidence, that the crown prince was complicit in the murder of Mr Khashoggi . I'm not going to be denied the ability to be briefed by the CIA."

> . Sen. Mike Lee: "The bloodshed continues, still abetted by the United States, even amidst further revelations of Saudi depravity."

> . Sen. Chris Murphy: "The Saudis have gone off the rails. They've killed more

> civilians this year than any year prior in the Yemen war . They obviously made

> a giant strategic error in abducting and murdering Jamal Khashoggi. So, a lot

> has changed in the last few months to get us to this point."

> . Sen. Chris Murphy: "[Sec. Mattis and Pompeo] lost votes this morning

. They
> just had no good answers for why Gina Haspel wasn't there. They had no plan to
> end the war in Yemen."
> . Sen. Tim Kaine: "We sent an important message today - that Congress will
> stand up to Saudi leadership when the Trump administration won't, and that

> Saudi Arabia will face consequences for the murder of Virginia resident Jamal
> Khashoggi as well as for the disastrous war in Yemen."
> . Sen. Bob Menendez: "No. First of all, as it relates to Jamal Khashoggi, the
> fact that Gina Haspel, the CIA director, was not there despite bipartisan
> calls for her to be there and to testify as to what her agency and other
> intelligence agencies' conclusions were was pretty outrageous. My view - it's
> a cover-up of a critical question that we have as it relates to U.S.-Saudi

> relationships."
> . Sen. Richard Durbin: "The administration position was defended by both of
> them in terms of what we had done naming 17 people who would suffer because we
> believed they were involved. But there was no satisfying answer about how it
> is possible that this could have occurred without the crown prince's knowledge
> or direction."
>
> Following a briefing by CIA Director Gina Haspel, senators said it contrasted
sharply with the one by Secs. Mattis and Pompeo.
>
> . Sen. Corker: "If [the crown prince] went in front of a jury, he would be
convicted in 30 minutes."
> . Sen. Graham: "There is not a smoking gun. There is a smoking saw.
> . Sen. Graham: Secs. Mattis and Pompeo were "following the lead of the president" and were being "good soldiers."
> . Sen. Menendez: "I am now more convinced than I was before -- and I was
pretty convinced -- that in fact the United States must have a strong response
> to both the war in Yemen as well as the killing of a United States permanent
resident and journalist. Only a strong response by the United States will send
> a clear and unequivocal message that such actions are not acceptable on the
world's stage.
> . Sen. Durbin: "It certainly reinforced my support for the bipartisan joint
war powers resolution to end unauthorized U.S. military involvement in Yemen
> and the need for a stronger response by the U.S. and the Trump administration

> to the murder of Jamal Khashoggi. Every senator should hear what I heard
this
> afternoon. CIA Director Haspel must brief the full Senate immediately."
> . Sen. Richard Shelby: "Somebody should be punished. The question now
is how
> do you separate the Saudi crown prince from the nation itself. That might
be
> the real problem."

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: (b)(6)
> Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 11:00 AM
> To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
> (b)(6)
> [REDACTED]
> Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
> (b)(6) : Bushman, William SES SD
(b)(6)

> Subject: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
>
> CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED
>
> Team Analysis,
>
> Please put together a summary of the articles that were posted after
the
> Secretary's All-Senate Yemen brief that contain inflammatory statements
from
> the Senators who attended the briefing. Please also include some of the
> articles following the Haspel briefing this past week. Please send what
you
> can by 1145 and reply all with the summary.

>

> Thank you!

>

> V/r,

> (b)(6)
> Senior Military Assistant
> Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

> Pentagon (b)(6)

> NIPR: (b)(6)

> (b)(6)

> SIPR: (b)(6)

> (b)(6)

> Office (b)(6)

> Cell: (b)(6)

>

>

> CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

>

>

OSJI/1:19-cv-00234/000531

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
To: Bushman, William SES SD; White, Dana W SES OSD (US); OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis; (b)(6)
Cc:
Subject: RE: ANOTHER QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Monday, December 10, 2018 9:50:05 AM

Good morning.

Not a problem. We will get you a report similar to last one by 1230.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2018 9:45 AM
To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6) OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
(b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: ANOTHER QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
Importance: High

Thanks, all. Unfortunately, excellent work often leads to more work...

Follow-up request: (b)(5)
(b)(5)

Also, quick turn request on this. Can we get something by 1230?

Thanks,
Will

William G. Bushman
Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 12:41 PM
To: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6) OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox
Media Analysis (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

(b)(6) has got you covered Bushman! Safe travels...Call me if anything crazy happens.
Dana

From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US)
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Bloomberg story
Date: Wednesday, November 28, 2018 7:00:15 AM

Please print. Traffic is slow. ETA 0715
Thanks

Ms. Dana W. White
ATSD/PA
(b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hood, Robert R HON OSD OASD LA (US)"
(b)(6)
Date: November 28, 2018 at 6:27:17 AM EST
To: "Sweeney, Kevin M SES (US)"(b)(6) "White, Dana W
SES OSD (US)"(b)(6) "McAleer, Laura P SES OSD
OASD LA (USA)" <laura.p.mcaleer.civ@mail.mil>,(b)(6)
(b)(6)
Cc:(b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: Bloomberg story

This story is what Members will read this morning before the briefing.
Rob

Defense chief Jim Mattis and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo <Caution-
<https://www.bgov.com/core/legislators/#!/BB49820>> head to the Senate today to
defend what is increasingly politically indefensible: close U.S. ties to Saudi
Arabia after the murder of a columnist and a war in Yemen that's resulted in
widespread famine.

The duo will be facing senators from both parties incensed by Saudi Arabia's
bloody involvement—with U.S. military help—in Yemen's years-long civil war
and the killing of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi at the Saudi
consulate in Istanbul. The classified briefing is open to all senators.

Despite their outrage, senators aren't likely to hear what they want: a willingness
to punish an ally and demand accountability from Saudi Crown Prince
Mohammed bin Salman, or MBS for short.

"The question that needs to be asked, and answered, is did MBS order the killing
of Khashoggi," said Sen. Cory Gardner <Caution-
<https://www.bgov.com/core/legislators/#!/BB11411>> (R-Colo.). "They have to
answer that question."



Photo - Zach Gibson/Getty Images
U.S. Secretary of Defense James Mattis

Frayed Ties

The growing frustration in the Senate is already fueling a floor vote, potentially Thursday, on a privileged resolution to end U.S. support for the Saudi-led military mission in Yemen.

Adoption of the resolution would be a tough rebuke of President Donald Trump's decision to stand by Saudi leaders. Khashoggi's killing has put the U.S. in a difficult position. Trump has built much of his Middle East strategy around a close alliance with Saudi Arabia, counting on its leaders to keep oil prices down as he ramps up sanctions on the kingdom's rival, Iran. His first foreign trip as president was to Riyadh and the crown prince has built a rapport with Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner.

McConnell: Some Kind of Response Needed After Khashoggi Murder < Caution-
https://www.bgov.com/core/news_articles/PIVD3I6S9728 >

Long a strategic ally in the Middle East with enormous financial resources, Saudi Arabia has seen its support in Congress erode over the last several years. In 2016, Congress voted to override a presidential veto of a bill that allows the kingdom to be sued over the Sept. 11 attacks.

The impetus for the bill stemmed from allegations that elements in the Saudi government aided some of the Saudi citizens who carried out the hijackings. Over the last several months, lawmakers from both parties have publicly slammed Saudi Arabia's involvement in creating a massive humanitarian crisis in Yemen. The Saudi-led coalition says it's combating rebels backed by Iran.

CIA Report

Trump's two emissaries are going to face a tough crowd at today's meeting, open to all senators in a closed space in the Capitol Visitors' Center. Just last week, Mattis threw cold water on reports that the Central Intelligence Agency had concluded that the Saudi crown prince played a role in Khashoggi's murder.

While the CIA didn't find hard evidence that the crown prince ordered the killing, it reportedly concluded with "high confidence" that he must have been in on the decision.

CIA director Gina Haspel will be a noticeable absence at the briefing: she isn't scheduled to appear. Republican Sens. Lindsey Graham < Caution-
<https://www.bgov.com/core/legislators/#!/BB491> > (S.C.) a Trump ally, and Bob Corker < Caution-<https://www.bgov.com/core/legislators/#!/BB27002> > (Tenn.), who leads the Foreign Relations Committee, both said they wanted Haspel at the briefing today. Just like Gardner, they both said they are focused on the Saudi crown prince and his culpability in Khashoggi's murder.

Mattis told reporters at the Pentagon, in an off-camera briefing, that neither the CIA nor the Saudi Arabian government had “fully established” who’s responsible for killing the Washington Post columnist. While everyone involved in the murder should be held accountable, the U.S. has to work with Saudi Arabia to end the humanitarian crisis in Yemen, Mattis said.

“Presidents don’t often get the freedom to work with unblemished partners in all things,” Mattis said.

‘Mean World’

Both Mattis and Pompeo are toeing the president’s line of siding with the Saudi government and the crown prince. Trump has repeatedly made the case for preserving what he says would be \$110 billion in foreign military sales to Saudi Arabia—a steep figure that hasn’t been documented.

“It’s a mean, nasty world out there—the Middle East in particular. There are important American interests.” Pompeo, a former member of Congress, said last week. “It is the president’s obligation to ensure we adopt policies that further America’s national security.”

To be sure, any Senate steps to significantly alter the U.S.-Saudi relationship face resistance in the Republican-led U.S. House. Just this month, leaders in that chamber used a procedural maneuver to block a War Powers resolution—similar to the one senators plan to take up—from coming to the floor for a vote. Any other action would depend on the new Congress that begins in January: a Democratic-led House and a Senate where Republicans narrowly expanded their majority.

Robert R Hood
Assistant Secretary of
Defense for Legislative Affairs

(b)(6)

From: [White House WH-SPK-EGG-FARS](#)
To: [Sallyn Jennifer](#)
Subject: RE: [ilon-DOD Source] FW: URGENT: POTUS STATEMENT ON JAMAL KHASHOGGI
Date: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 4:34:10 PM

IGNORE earlier email. You're good

Dana W. White
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
Public Affairs
Office: (202) 707-6000
E-mail: (b)(6)
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DoDPA>
Website: www.defenselink.mil/militarycom

—Original Message—
From: White, Diana W SES (OSD) (US)
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 4:51 PM
To: Griffin, Jennifer <jennifer.griffin@FOXNEWS.COM>
Subject: RE: [NINM-DuD] Sanc1 FW: URGENT- PUTIN'S STATEMENT ON JAMAL KHASHOGGI

Jennifer
Nielsen's presser is at 1600 PST.
Best.

Dana W. White
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
Public Affairs
Office [REDACTED]
E-mail: (b)(6)

Twitter: [@DanDOD](https://twitter.com/DanDOD)
Website: www.knowyourmilitary.org
Join the conversation: #KnowYourM
at the TheSpot.us

Original Message
From: Griffin, Jennifer [mailto:Jennifer.Griffin@FOXNEWS.COM]
Sent: Tuesday, November 20 2018 2:13 PM
To: White, Dana W SES OSB (Dana.W.White@osb.dod.mil)
Subject: INFO-DOD-Subscrip FW: URGENT - FEDERAL STATEMENT FROM JAMAL KHASHOGGI

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and authenticate the authenticity of all links contained within the message before clicking and sharing the address to a web browser.

[Create a new gallery](#) [Edit this gallery](#) [Delete this gallery](#)

Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 20, 2018

Statement from President Donald J. Trump on Standing with Saudi Arabia

American English

The world is a very dangerous place

The country of Iran, as an example, is responsible for a bloody proxy war against Saudi Arabia in Yemen, trying to destabilize Iraq's fragile attempt at democracy, supporting the terror group Hezbollah in Lebanon, propping up dictator Bashar Assad in Syria (who has killed millions of his own citizens), and much more. Likewise, the Iranians have killed many Americans and other innocent people throughout the Middle East. Iran states openly, and with great force, "Death to America!" and "Death to Israel!" Iran is considered "the world's leading sponsor of terror."

On the 1st of January, Saudi Arabia would gladly withdraw from Yemen if the Saudis would agree to leave. They would immediately provide desperately needed humanitarian assistance. Additionally, Saudi Arabia has agreed to spend billions of dollars in leading the fight against Radical Islamic Terrorism.

and much added wealth for the United States. The \$550 billion deal, which includes the delivery of 100 Bell, Bell Helicopter, Sikorsky and Boeing aircraft and much added wealth for the United States, the \$550 billion deal, which includes the delivery of 100 Bell, Bell Helicopter, Sikorsky and Boeing aircraft and much added wealth for the United States.

The crime against Jamal Khashoggi was a terrible one, and one that our country does not have come. Indeed, we have taken strong action against those already known to have participated in the murder. After great independent research, we now know many details of this terrible crime. We have already sanctioned 17 Saudis known to have been involved in the murder of Mr. Khashoggi, and the disposal of his body.

Representatives of Saudi Arabia say that Jamal Khashoggi was an "enemy of the state" and a member of the Muslim Brotherhood, but my decision is in no way based on that - this is an unacceptable and terrible crime. King Salman and Crown Prince

The author would like to thank the members of Ms. Tessa Kehl's class at the University of Alberta who provided feedback on this paper.

I understand there are members of Congress who, for political or other reasons, would like to go in a different direction – and they have the right to do so. I will consider whatever options are presented to me, but only if they are consistent with the national security and safety of America. After the States, Saudi Arabia is the largest oil producer in the world. They have worked closely with us and have been very responsive to my requests to keep oil prices at reasonable levels – so

Ursuscripts < Caution-https://urfileleaseprotoipal.com/2/uri/u=https://A__whichhouse.us/1/list-2Dmainpage.com_mmunsubscribe-3Fn-3Dg976j062jbul8c4i6g976n-2Ad-3D7b5d73037-2er-3D4286824fc-2fc-

The White House | 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW | Washington, DC 20500-4903 | USA | 202-456-1111

John Ruskin.

Chief White House Correspondent

For Native Americans

OSJI/1:19-cv-00234/000536

[john_reed@foxnews.com](#) <[C:\inetpub\mailroot\subscribers\jreeds@foxnews.com](#)>

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[@jreeds@foxnews.com](#)

This message and its attachments may contain legally privileged or confidential information. It is intended solely for the named addressee. If you are not the addressee indicated in this message (or responsible for delivery of the message to the addressee), you may not copy or deliver this message or its attachments to anyone. Rather, you should permanently delete this message and its attachments and kindly notify the sender by reply e-mail. Any content of this message and its attachments that does not relate to the official business of Fox News or Fox Business must not be taken to have been sent or endorsed by either of them. No representation is made that this email or its attachments are without defect.

From: [White, Dana W SES OSD \(US\)](#)
To: [Bushman, William SES SD](#)
Cc: (b)(6)
 (b)(6) [Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA \(US\)](#); [Manning, Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA \(US\)](#)
Subject: Re: Help
Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 6:35:43 AM

(b)(6)

Would you please help Will Bushman with his request below? This is s top priority for FO.

Thanks

Dana

Ms. Dana W. White
ATSD/PA

(b)(6)

> On Oct 23, 2018, at 6:05 AM, Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6) wrote:

>

> Dana,

>

> (b)(5)

>

>

> Many thanks - and sorry for the trouble.

>

> - Will

>

> William G. Bushman

> Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense

>(b)(6)

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis

>(b)(6)

> Sent: Monday, October 22, 2018 4:55 AM

> Subject: Morning News of Note 22 Oct 2018

>

> MORNING NEWS OF NOTE

> AS OF 0400 HOURS, OCTOBER 22

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> TWEETS OF NOTE

>

> U.S. Ambassador to NATO Kay Bailey Hutchison wrote: "Our U.S. Marines with
> the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit were in Iceland this week for
> cold-weather training as part of exercise #TridentJuncture. The exercise
> enhances Allies' ability to operate together to defend our citizens & deter
> potential adversaries." In Afghanistan, Afghan Chief Executive Abdullah
> Abdullah tweeted: "Today I met Gen. Austin Miller, Commander of Resolute
> Support Mission @ResoluteSupport & the U.S. Forces in Afghanistan. We
> discussed the successful parliamentary election, the huge turnout, security
> developments, & effective ways of fighting terrorism." And Israeli Prime
> Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said: "The U.S.-Israel alliance under @POTUS
> Trump has never been stronger. I appreciate that alliance and strengthening
> of our relations in every field: in intelligence, security cooperation,

> victims in Kingsland. Residents were able to drive up to a local Baptist
> church and pick up their water and ice. National Guard members said they are
> on a mission to serve the community of Kingsland as a whole.

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> 7. Bipartisan Calls for Punishing Saudis As Trump Accuses Them of
> 'Deception'

> New York Times, Oct. 22, Pg. A7 | Mark Landler and Sheryl Gay Stolberg

> Members of Congress from both parties made clear on Sunday that they wanted
> to see Saudi Arabia punished for the killing of the journalist Jamal

> Khashoggi, as President Trump shifted his tone again on the issue and joined
> the lawmakers in expressing doubt about the Saudi government's account of

> the death. "Obviously, there's been deception and there's been lies," Mr.
> Trump said in a telephone interview late Saturday with The Washington Post.

> "Their stories are all over the place."

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> Wall Street Journal, Oct. 22, Pg. A1 | Ian Talley
> The Trump administration, under pressure to sanction Saudi Arabia over the
> killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, is seeking ways to maintain the two
> countries' strategic alliance. An array of lawmakers from both parties urged
> sanctions on the kingdom as Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin prepared to
> visit Saudi Arabia on Monday. Mr. Mnuchin told a small group of reporters
> that the administration's relationship with Riyadh was critical to the U.S.
> campaign to counter Iran's bid to become the region's dominant power.
>
> 11. Erdogan Vows He'll Reveal All On Saudi Case
> New York Times, Oct. 22, Pg. A1 | David D. Kirkpatrick
> Turkish officials have been leaking lurid details for weeks about the
> assassination and reported dismemberment of the Saudi dissident Jamal
> Khashoggi in the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul. But President Recep Tayyip
> Erdogan, keen to maintain good relations with Saudi Arabia, has until now
> mostly held his tongue. "We will reveal it," he said in a televised
> speech. "It will be revealed in full nakedness."

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> illuminating the public about what it does. "I always thought sea blindness
> particularly bad in Germany, so it was painful to discover that it exists
> even in a seafaring nation like Britain," retired Vice Adm. Hans-Joachim
> Stricker, a former commander of the German fleet, told me.
>
> 27. The power of a pact with the U.S.
> Washington Post, Oct. 22, Pg. A18 | Editorial
> Does America really have the capability to influence other nations toward
> the ideals of democracy, free markets, rule of law and respect for human
> rights? Often it seems not when dictators, strongmen and party bosses engage
> in abominable behavior, silencing critics and imprisoning civil society
> activists. But the case of Vietnam and the Trans-Pacific Partnership
> suggests that other nations, including the most authoritarian, do pay
> attention to U.S. prompts.
>
> 28. America and the Saudis
> Wall Street Journal, Oct. 22, Pg. A18 | Editorial
> The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has hurt itself badly with the killing of
> journalist Jamal Khashoggi, and its serial explanations are compounding the
> damage. President Trump will lose control of the Saudi-U.S. relationship if
> he doesn't speak truth to these Saudi abuses and to Crown Prince Mohammed
> bin Salman, the 33-year-old power in front of the throne.
>
> 29. A Saudi Prince's Fairy Tale
> New York Times, Oct. 22, Pg. A22 | Editorial
> The question now is not whether the Saudis' latest explanation for Jamal
> Khashoggi's death is credible, but whom do they think they're fooling. In
> the autocratic world of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, what common people
> think is irrelevant; what matters is whether throwing his hit men under the
> bus is enough to satisfy President Trump.
>
> 30. Myth of the modernizing dictator
> Washington Post, Oct. 22, Pg. A19 | Robert Kagan
> Many Americans have an odd fascination with the idea of the reforming
> autocrat, the strongman who can "modernize" and lead his nation out of its
> backward and benighted past. This was the hope for Crown Prince Mohammed bin
> Salman of Saudi Arabia, a hope now somewhat diminished by the hit he appears
> to have ordered against Post contributing columnist Jamal Khashoggi in
> Turkey.
>
> ***
>
> TWEETS OF NOTE
> Twitter, Oct. 21
>
> <Morning News of Note 22 Oct 2018.pdf>

From: Manning, Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA (US)
To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
Cc: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Duty Officer Press Operations (b)(6)
Subject: INCLUDE in MNON — FYSA: "Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing" (WP)
Date: Friday, November 2, 2018 9:29:06 PM

MNON Team—Please see all below and include in the MNON.

Thanks,
Rob

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 2, 2018, at 8:00 PM, White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6) wrote:

This should be in tomorrow's MNON

Ms. Dana W. White
ATSD/PA
(b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)
Date: November 2, 2018 at 3:58:58 PM EDT
To: OSD Pentagon PA List DPO CENTCOM (b)(6)
Cc: "White, Dana W SES OSD (US)" (b)(6), "Summers, Charles E II SES OSD PA (US)" (b)(6) (b)(6)
"Joiner, A Kimberley (Kim) SES OSD PA (US)" (b)(6), "Whitman, Burke W MajGen USMC 2ND MARDIV (US)" (b)(6), "Manning, Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA (US)" (b)(6)

OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Duty Officer Press Operations

(b)(6)

OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media

Analysis (b)(6)

Subject: FYSA: "Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing"
(WP)

Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing
Washington Post | Recep Tayyip Erdogan

The story is all too familiar: Jamal Khashoggi, a Saudi journalist and a family man, entered Saudi Arabia's Consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2 for marriage formalities. No one - not even his fiancee, who was waiting outside the compound - has ever seen him again.

Over the course of the past month, Turkey has moved heaven and earth to shed light on all aspects of this case. As a result of our efforts, the world has learned that Khashoggi was killed in cold blood by a death squad, and it has been established that his murder was premeditated.

Yet there are other, no less significant questions whose answers will contribute to our understanding of this deplorable act. Where is Khashoggi's body? Who is the "local collaborator" to whom Saudi officials claimed to have handed over Khashoggi's remains? Who gave the order to kill this kind soul? Unfortunately, the Saudi authorities have refused to answer those questions.

We know that the perpetrators are among the 18 suspects detained in Saudi Arabia. We also know that those individuals came to carry out their orders: Kill Khashoggi and leave. Finally, we know that the order to kill Khashoggi came from the highest levels of the Saudi government.

Some seem to hope this "problem" will go away in time. But we will keep asking those questions, which are crucial to the criminal investigation in Turkey, but also to Khashoggi's family and loved ones. A month after his killing, we still do not know where his body is. At the very least, he deserves a proper burial in line with Islamic customs. We owe it to his family and friends, including his former colleagues at The Post, to give them an opportunity to say their goodbyes and pay their respects to this honorable man. To ensure that the world will keep asking the same questions, we have shared the evidence with our friends and allies, including the United States.

As we continue to look for answers, I would like to stress that Turkey and Saudi Arabia enjoy friendly relations. I do not believe for a second that King Salman, the custodian of the holy mosques, ordered

the hit on Khashoggi. Therefore, I have no reason to believe that his murder reflected Saudi Arabia's official policy. In this sense, it would be wrong to view the Khashoggi slaying as a "problem" between two countries. Nonetheless, I must add that our friendship with Riyadh, which goes back a long time, doesn't mean we will turn a blind eye to the premeditated murder that unfolded in front of our very eyes. The killing of Khashoggi is inexplicable. Had this atrocity taken place in the United States or elsewhere, authorities in those countries would have gotten to the bottom of what happened. It would be out of the question for us to act any other way.

No one should dare to commit such acts on the soil of a NATO ally again. If anyone chooses to ignore that warning, they will face severe consequences. The Khashoggi murder was a clear violation and a blatant abuse of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. Failure to punish the perpetrators could set a very dangerous precedent.

This is another reason we were shocked and saddened by the efforts of certain Saudi officials to cover up Khashoggi's premeditated murder rather than serve the cause of justice, as our friendship would require. Though Riyadh has detained 18 suspects, it is deeply concerning that no action has been taken against the Saudi consul general, who lied through his teeth to the media and fled Turkey shortly afterward. Likewise, the refusal of the Saudi public prosecutor - who recently visited his counterpart in Istanbul - to cooperate with the investigation and answer even simple questions is very frustrating. His invitation for Turkish investigators to Saudi Arabia for more talks about the case felt like a desperate and deliberate stalling tactic.

The murder of Jamal Khashoggi involves a lot more than a group of security officials, just as the Watergate scandal was bigger than a break-in and the 9/11 terror attacks went beyond the hijackers. As responsible members of the international community, we must reveal the identities of the puppetmasters behind Khashoggi's killing and discover those in whom Saudi officials - still trying to cover up the murder - have placed their trust.

--Recep Tayyip Erdogan is the president of Turkey.

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6)

From: Manning, Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA (US)
To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US)
Cc: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Duty Officer Press Operations; (b)(6)
Subject: Re: FVSA: "Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing" (WP)
Date: Friday, November 2, 2018 9:29:07 PM

Yes Ma'am.

Very respectfully,
Rob

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 2, 2018, at 8:00 PM, White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6) wrote:

This should be in tomorrow's MNON

Ms. Dana W. White
ATSD/PA
(b)(6)

Begin forwarded message:

From: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
(b)(6)
Date: November 2, 2018 at 3:58:58 PM EDT
To: OSD Pentagon PA List DPO CENTCOM
(b)(6)
Cc: "White, Dana W SES OSD (US)"
(b)(6) "Summers, Charles E II SES OSD
PA (US)" (b)(6)
(b)(6)
(b)(6) "Joiner,
A Kimberley (Kim) SES OSD PA (US)"
(b)(6) "Whitman, Burke W MajGen USMC
2ND MARDIV (US)" (b)(6) "Manning,
Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA (US)"
(b)(6)

OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Duty Officer Press Operations
(b)(6) OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media
Analysis (b)(6)
Subject: FYSA: "Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing"
(WP)

Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Saudi Arabia still has many questions to answer about Jamal Khashoggi's killing
Washington Post | Recep Tayyip Erdogan

The story is all too familiar: Jamal Khashoggi, a Saudi journalist and a family man, entered Saudi Arabia's Consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2 for marriage formalities. No one - not even his fiancee, who was waiting outside the compound - has ever seen him again.

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(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

(b)(6)

OVERVIEW: Negative Senate reaction to Sec. Mattis and Sec. Pompeo's Nov. 28 briefing focused on their remarks regarding the U.S.-Saudi relationship in the aftermath of Jamal Khashoggi's murder. Senators frequently connected their choice to deny U.S. support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen to how transparent the administration is about who was responsible for the journalist's death, specifically citing CIA Director Gina Haspel's absence. Additionally, senators questioned the wisdom of maintaining close relations with Riyadh, doubting Mohammed bin Salman's innocence in the matter and his ability serve U.S. interests as an ally.

. Sen. Bob Corker: "What I would argue to the administration is that somehow or another there's got to be a price to pay for what has happened . My sense is, unless something happens - where they share what it is they're going to do to deal with this injustice that has occurred - my sense is that people are going to vote to get on the bill."

. Sen. Lindsey Graham: "The question for me is whether or not the CIA supports the conclusion, with a high degree of confidence, that the crown prince was complicit in the murder of Mr Khashoggi . I'm not going to be denied the ability to be briefed by the CIA."

. Sen. Mike Lee: "The bloodshed continues, still abetted by the United States, even amidst further revelations of Saudi depravity."

. Sen. Chris Murphy: "The Saudis have gone off the rails. They've killed more civilians this year than any year prior in the Yemen war . They obviously made a giant strategic error in abducting and murdering Jamal Khashoggi. So, a lot has changed in the last few months to get us to this point."

. Sen. Chris Murphy: "[Sec. Mattis and Pompeo] lost votes this morning . They just had no good answers for why Gina Haspel wasn't there. They had no plan to end the war in Yemen."

. Sen. Tim Kaine: "We sent an important message today - that Congress will stand up to Saudi leadership when the Trump administration won't, and that Saudi Arabia will face consequences for the murder of Virginia resident Jamal Khashoggi as well as for the disastrous war in Yemen."

. Sen. Bob Menendez: "No. First of all, as it relates to Jamal Khashoggi, the fact that Gina Haspel, the CIA director, was not there despite bipartisan calls for her to be there and to testify as to what her agency and other intelligence agencies' conclusions were was pretty outrageous. My view - it's a cover-up of a critical question that we have as it relates to U.S.-Saudi relationships."

. Sen. Richard Durbin: "The administration position was defended by both of them in terms of what we had done naming 17 people who would suffer because we believed they were involved. But there was no satisfying answer about how it is possible that this could have occurred without the crown prince's knowledge or direction."

Following a briefing by CIA Director Gina Haspel, senators said it contrasted sharply with the one by Secs. Mattis and Pompeo.

. Sen. Corker: "If [the crown prince] went in front of a jury, he would be convicted in 30 minutes."

. Sen. Graham: "There is not a smoking gun. There is a smoking saw."

. Sen. Graham: Secs. Mattis and Pompeo were "following the lead of the president" and were being "good soldiers."

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. Sen. Richard Shelby: "Somebody should be punished. The question now is how do you separate the Saudi crown prince from the nation itself. That might be the real problem."

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 11:00 AM

To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)

Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Subject: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Team Analysis,

Please put together a summary of the articles that were posted after the Secretary's All-Senate Yemen brief that contain inflammatory statements from the Senators who attended the briefing. Please also include some of the articles following the Haspel briefing this past week. Please send what you can by 1145 and reply all with the summary.

Thank you!

V/r,

(b)(6)

Senior Military Assistant

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

Pentagon (b)(6)

NIPR: (b)(6)

SIPR:

Office (b)(6)

Cell (b)(6)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Dana W. White
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
Public Affairs
Office [REDACTED]
E-mail [REDACTED]

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DoDOutreach>
Website: www.knowyourmilitary.osd.mil
Join the conversation: #KnowYourMil
@ChiefPentSpox

-----Original Message-----

From: Bushman, William SES SD [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 12:03 PM
To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

Thanks, all. Great work on short timeline.

Sent from Mobile Device

From: "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis"
[REDACTED] >
Date: Friday, December 7, 2018 at 11:52:21 AM
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: "White, Dana W SES OSD (US)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], "Bushman, William SES SD"
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] >, "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media
Analysis" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

OVERVIEW: Negative Senate reaction to Sec. Mattis and Sec. Pompeo's Nov. 28 briefing focused on their remarks regarding the U.S.-Saudi relationship in the aftermath of Jamal Khashoggi's murder. Senators frequently connected their choice to deny U.S. support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen to how transparent

the administration is about who was responsible for the journalist's death, specifically citing CIA Director Gina Haspel's absence. Additionally, senators questioned the wisdom of maintaining close relations with Riyadh, doubting Mohammed bin Salman's innocence in the matter and his ability serve U.S. interests as an ally.

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From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 11:00 AM

To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis

(b)(6)

Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)

(b)(6) >; Bushman, William SES SD

(b)(6)

Subject: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

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Thank you!

V/T,

(b)(6)

Senior Military Assistant

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

Pentagon (b)(6)

NIPR: (b)(6)

SIPR:

(b)(6)

Office: (b)(6)

Cell: (b)(6)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

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From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 11:00 AM

To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)

Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)

Bushman, William SES SD

(b)(6)

Subject: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

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V/r,

(b)(6)

Senior Military Assistant

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

Pentagon (b)(6)

NIPR: (b)(6)

SIPR:

Office: (b)(6)

Cell: (b)(6)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

From: Manning, Robert III COL USARMY OSD PA (US)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Updated WP article w/KSA quote
Date: Friday, November 9, 2018 8:08:23 PM

FYSA [REDACTED] just sent me the note below.

—
Hi COL Manning it's [REDACTED] I just sent the group an email, but wouldn't to make sure you were aware - Ms. White is calling Rood now to discuss releasing the statement tonight
—

V/r
Rob

Sent from my iPhone

> On Nov 9, 2018, at 8:06 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:
>
> Thanks. Can you confirm if Saudi put out their full statement or are they just RTQing?
> [REDACTED]
> [REDACTED]
> OATSD(PA)
> [REDACTED]
>> On Nov 9, 2018, at 8:04 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:
>>
>> Sir,
>> Below is an updated version of the WP article citing a Saudi government official saying: "As the RSAF [Royal Saudi Air Force] has reached a mature and sufficient aerial refueling capacity, we informed the U.S. that this support was no longer a priority."
>>
>> ***
>>
>> Trump administration to end refueling of Saudi coalition aircraft in Yemen conflict
>> Washington Post | John Hudson. Missy Ryan
>>
>> The Trump administration is ending the practice of refueling Saudi-coalition aircraft, halting the most tangible and controversial aspect of U.S. support for the kingdom's three-year war in Yemen, people familiar with the situation said.
>>
>> The move comes amid escalating criticism of Saudi Arabia's conduct in the war. Lawmakers from both parties have demanded that the United States suspend weapons sales to Riyadh and cut off aerial refueling of aircraft flown by the Saudi-led coalition, which monitoring groups have accused of killing thousands of unarmed civilians.
>>
>> While the individuals familiar with the discussions said a decision is expected to be made public in coming days, Col. Robert Manning III, a Pentagon spokesman, said: "We have ongoing discussions with our partners but have nothing to announce at this time."
>>
>> Analysis said the move would limit Saudi Arabia's ability to conduct bombing missions.
>>

>> "This marks the first time that the United States has taken a concrete measure to rein in the Saudi war effort," said Bruce Riedel, a former CIA officer who is now a scholar at the Brookings Institution. "Two administrations have basically given the Saudis a blank check to do whatever they wanted. Now it will be harder for the Saudis to carry out airstrikes deep into Yemeni territory, going after the capital, for instance."

>>

>> Several of the individuals, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss a decision that had not been made public, said the move was prompted at least in part by the Saudi military's increased aerial refueling capability.

>>

>> "As the RSAF [Royal Saudi Air Force] has reached a mature and sufficient aerial refueling capacity, we informed the U.S. that this support was no longer a priority," a senior Saudi government official said Friday.

>>

>> The decision is expected to have a lesser effect on the air operations of the United Arab Emirates, a coalition member whose sorties are flown from just across the Red Sea in Eritrea. The UAE government has said its air operations primarily target al-Qaeda militants rather than Houthi rebels. The coalition launched its operations against the rebels in 2015 because it feared their rise would give Iran a foothold on the Arabian Peninsula.

>>

>> Yemeni forces supported by the coalition recently announced a new offensive to capture the Houthi-controlled port city of Hodeida. Aid officials warn that an urban battle there could imperil hundreds of thousands of people.

>>

>> The U.S.-Saudi relationship has come under closer scrutiny since Saudi Arabia acknowledged that its agents killed Jamal Khashoggi, a prominent Saudi journalist, last month. Democrats, bolstered by a string of midterm election victories in the House, have also called for greater oversight of the war.

>>

>> Though U.S. military officials have continued to publicly defend the Saudi-led coalition's efforts to avert civilian casualties, privately they have expressed a feeling of being stuck between a rock and a hard place. U.S. military leaders, many of whom have years of experience working closely with Persian Gulf allies, see Saudi Arabia as a key partner in the counterterrorism fight that has dominated Pentagon operations since 2001. They also share Riyadh's concern about Iran's reach through proxy forces and want to show support for the kingdom as it grapples with repeated missile and other attacks from the Houthi rebels.

>>

>> But the officials are also frustrated that they are blamed for atrocities in a conflict in which they believe they have a minor supporting role and which they often have little ability to shape. U.S. air tanker activity represents only about a fifth of overall refueling activity for the coalition's campaign over Yemen, according to the Defense Department.

>>

>> The decision to halt refueling occurs as the Trump administration seeks to throw its support behind efforts by the U.N. envoy for Yemen, Martin Griffiths, to initiate discussions that might lead to a peace deal. Griffiths had hoped to bring the Houthis together with representatives of Yemen's internationally recognized government this month but, in an acknowledgment of the challenge negotiators will face, he now hopes to do so by the end of the year, U.N. officials said Thursday.

>>

>> Critics say the Trump administration's attempt to foster a peace process is undermined by its failure to exert adequate pressure on Saudi Arabia.

>>

>> "The United States has the clout to bring an end to the conflict — but it has decided to protect a corrupt ally," Mohammed Ali al-Houthi, a senior Houthi official, said in an opinion article in The Washington Post.

>>

>> On Friday, Sens. Todd C. Young (R-Ind.) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.) renewed their calls for a suspension of U.S. refueling in a war that has killed at least 10,000 people. "We must send an unambiguous, immediate, and tangible message that we expect Riyadh to engage in good faith and urgent negotiations to end the civil war," the lawmakers said in a statement. "Riyadh must also understand that we will not tolerate the continued indiscriminate airstrikes against civilians and civilian infrastructure that have helped put 14 million Yemenis on the verge of starvation."

>>

>> U.S. military officials have said their refueling program seeks to enable defensive missions conducted by coalition planes — targeting a Houthi site, for example, from which a missile is thought to have been launched into Saudi Arabia — but acknowledge that they do not track what occurs once those planes have been refueled. In

March, Army Gen. Joseph Votel, head of U.S. Central Command, told Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) that U.S. forces did not track whether U.S. fuel or munitions had been used in coalition operations that resulted in civilian deaths.

>>

>> Warren condemned the actions of Iranian-linked forces in Yemen but said the United States must insist on accountability from Saudi Arabia, because it provides the kingdom with aid. "That means we bear some responsibility here, and that means we need to hold our partners and our allies responsible for how those resources are used," she said.

>>

>> In the past, military leaders have argued that ending aerial refueling could have a dangerous effect. This spring, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said in a letter to lawmakers that legislation seeking to force an end to military support "could increase civilian casualties, jeopardize cooperation with our partners on counterterrorism and reduce our influence with the Saudis — all of which would further exacerbate the situation and humanitarian crisis."

>>

>> The Trump administration also shares intelligence with coalition forces and has continued to support massive arms sales, including precision-guided munitions that U.S. officials have argued enable the coalition to conduct more-precise air operations. U.S.-manufactured munitions have been found repeatedly at the sites of strikes on Yemeni civilians.

>>

>> U.S. military officials say Saudi Arabia has taken steps to improve its air operation, particularly after an Aug. 9 strike that killed more than 40 Yemeni children.

>>

>> During the final years of the Obama administration, the U.S. military had a more substantial footprint in the coalition air command center in Saudi Arabia. But it reduced the number of personnel there after a temporary cease-fire in 2016 and since then has sought to maintain its distance from the coalition's targeting operations.

>>

>> The move to end more than three years of refueling may not satisfy critics in Congress, who would like to see broader action to curtail U.S. involvement in the war. The U.S. military conducts a separate campaign in Yemen along with Emirati forces against al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. It wasn't immediately clear whether that operation would be affected by the decision.

>>

>> --Karen DeYoung contributed to this report.

>>

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Prepared by (b)(6)

Phone Number (b)(6)

HARD Q&As for All-Senators Briefing on Yemen

Non Responsive

(b)(5)

Non Responsive

Non Responsive

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

HARD Q&As for All-Senators Briefing on Yemen

Non Responsive

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From: Bushman, William SES SD
To: White, Dana W SES OSD (US); OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis; (b)(6)
Cc:
Subject: RE: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)
Date: Friday, December 7, 2018 2:33:48 PM

WILCO. Thanks a ton!

-----Original Message-----

From: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 12:41 PM
To: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6) OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis
(b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

(b)(6) has got you covered Bushman! Safe travels...Call me if anything crazy happens.
Dana

Dana W. White
Assistant to the Secretary of Defense
Public Affairs
Office: (b)(6)
E-mail: (b)(6)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DoDOutreach>
Website: www.knowyourmilitary.osd.mil
Join the conversation: #KnowYourMil
@ChiefPentSpox

-----Original Message-----

From: Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 12:03 PM
To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: Re: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

Thanks, all. Great work on short timeline.

Sent from Mobile Device

From: "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis" (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Date: Friday, December 7, 2018 at 11:52:21 AM

To: (b)(6) [REDACTED]
(b)(6) > [REDACTED]
Cc: "White, Dana W SES OSD (US)" (b)(6)
"Bushman, William SES SD" (b)(6) [REDACTED]
(b)(6) [REDACTED]
(b)(6) "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media" [REDACTED]
(b)(6) Analysis" (b)(6) [REDACTED]
(b)(6) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

OVERVIEW: Negative Senate reaction to Sec. Mattis and Sec. Pompeo's Nov. 28 briefing focused on their remarks regarding the U.S.-Saudi relationship in the aftermath of Jamal Khashoggi's murder. Senators frequently connected their choice to deny U.S. support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen to how transparent the administration is about who was responsible for the journalist's death, specifically citing CIA Director Gina Haspel's absence. Additionally, senators questioned the wisdom of maintaining close relations with Riyadh, doubting Mohammed bin Salman's innocence in the matter and his ability serve U.S. interests as an ally.

. Sen. Bob Corker: "What I would argue to the administration is that somehow or another there's got to be a price to pay for what has happened . My sense is, unless something happens - where they share what it is they're going to do to deal with this injustice that has occurred - my sense is that people are going to vote to get on the bill."

. Sen. Lindsey Graham: "The question for me is whether or not the CIA supports the conclusion, with a high degree of confidence, that the crown prince was complicit in the murder of Mr Khashoggi . I'm not going to be denied the ability to be briefed by the CIA."

. Sen. Mike Lee: "The bloodshed continues, still abetted by the United States, even amidst further revelations of Saudi depravity."

. Sen. Chris Murphy: "The Saudis have gone off the rails. They've killed more civilians this year than any year prior in the Yemen war . They obviously made a giant strategic error in abducting and murdering Jamal Khashoggi. So, a lot has changed in the last few months to get us to this point."

. Sen. Chris Murphy: "[Sec. Mattis and Pompeo] lost votes this morning . They just had no good answers for why Gina Haspel wasn't there. They had no plan to end the war in Yemen."

. Sen. Tim Kaine: "We sent an important message today - that Congress will stand up to Saudi leadership when the Trump administration won't, and that Saudi Arabia will face consequences for the murder of Virginia resident Jamal Khashoggi as well as for the disastrous war in Yemen."

. Sen. Bob Menendez: "No. First of all, as it relates to Jamal Khashoggi, the fact that Gina Haspel, the CIA director, was not there despite bipartisan calls for her to be there and to testify as to what her agency and other intelligence agencies' conclusions were was pretty outrageous. My view - it's a cover-up of a critical question that we have as it relates to U.S.-Saudi relationships."

. Sen. Richard Durbin: "The administration position was defended by both of them in terms of what we had done naming 17 people who would suffer because we believed they were involved. But there was no satisfying answer about how it is possible that this could have occurred without the crown prince's knowledge or direction."

Following a briefing by CIA Director Gina Haspel, senators said it contrasted sharply with the one by Secs. Mattis and Pompeo.

. Sen. Corker: "If [the crown prince] went in front of a jury, he would be convicted in 30 minutes."

. Sen. Graham: "There is not a smoking gun. There is a smoking saw."

. Sen. Graham: Secs. Mattis and Pompeo were "following the lead of the president" and were being "good soldiers."

. Sen. Menendez: "I am now more convinced than I was before -- and I was pretty convinced -- that in fact the United States must have a strong response to both the war in Yemen as well as the killing of a United States permanent resident and journalist. Only a strong response by the United States will send a clear and unequivocal message that such actions are not acceptable on the world's stage."

. Sen. Durbin: "It certainly reinforced my support for the bipartisan joint war powers resolution to end unauthorized U.S. military involvement in Yemen and the need for a stronger response by the U.S. and the Trump

administration to the murder of Jamal Khashoggi. Every senator should hear what I heard this afternoon. CIA Director Haspel must brief the full Senate immediately."

. Sen. Richard Shelby: "Somebody should be punished. The question now is how do you separate the Saudi crown prince from the nation itself. That might be the real problem."

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, December 7, 2018 11:00 AM

To: OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Cc: White, Dana W SES OSD (US) (b)(6)

Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Subject: QUICK TURN RFI (UNCLASSIFIED)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

Team Analysis,

Please put together a summary of the articles that were posted after the Secretary's All-Senate Yemen brief that contain inflammatory statements from the Senators who attended the briefing. Please also include some of the articles following the Haspel briefing this past week. Please send what you can by 1145 and reply all with the summary.

Thank you!

V/r,

(b)(6)

Senior Military Assistant

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

Pentagon (b)(6)

NIPR: (b)(6)

SIPR:

Office: (b)(6)

Cell: (b)(6)

CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6)
To: (b)(6)
Subject: FW (b)(5)
Date: Friday, December 28, 2018 8:25:55 AM

TBD...

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2018 4:05 PM
To: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Cc: Mitchell, Amy K SES (US) (b)(6)
Subject: RE (b)(5)

(b)(6)

We will have a better sense of what is happening after the beginning of the year. More to follow.

V/R

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2018 15:58
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) Mitchell, Amy SES SD (b)(6)
Subject: RE: (b)(5)

(b)(5),(b)(6)

V/r

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2018 8:48 AM
To: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Cc: OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List ISA FO (b)(6); OSD Pentagon
OUSD Policy List ISA ME FO (b)(6) OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy
List USDP MAs and SAs (b)(6)
(b)(6) SD - Protocol (b)(6)
(b)(6) Bushman, William SES SD (b)(6)
(b)(6)
(b)(6)
(b)(6) Verga, Peter F (Pete) SES OSD
OSD (US) (b)(6)
Subject: (b)(5)

Copy all (b)(6)

We are confirmed.

(b)(6)

1000 Defense Pentagon | 3E880
Washington, DC 20301-1000

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, December 19, 2018 3:17 PM

To: (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6)

Policy List ISA ME FO <(b)(6)>

OSD Pentagon OUSD

USDP MAs and SAs <(b)(6)>

OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List

(b)(6)

Subject: RE: (b)(5)

(b)(5)

V/r

(b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, December 14, 2018 6:26 PM

To: (b)(6)

Cc: OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List ISA FO <(b)(6)>

OSD Pentagon

OUSD Policy List ISA ME FO <(b)(6)>

OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy

List ISA IGAP <(b)(6)>

OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List USDP MAs

and SAs <(b)(6)>

Subject: RE: (b)(5)

Thank you (b)(6)

-----Original Message-----

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, December 14, 2018 6:22 PM

To: (b)(6)

Cc: OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List ISA FO <(b)(6)>

OSD Pentagon

OUSD Policy List ISA ME FO <(b)(6)>

OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy

List ISA IGAP <(b)(6)>

OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List USDP MAs

and SAs <(b)(6)>

Subject: Re: (b)(5)

Hi (b)(6) thanks for flagging, will work (b)(5) thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

> On Dec 14, 2018, at 6:03 PM, (b)(6)

(b)(6) wrote:

>

> ISA—I just wanted to be sure we followed up with (b)(5)

> (b)(6)

>

> ----Original Message-----

> From: (b)(6)

> Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2018 11:22 AM

> To: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

> Cc: OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List USDP MAs and SAs <(b)(6)>

(b)(6) OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List ISA FO <(b)(6)>

(b)(6)

> Subject: RE: (b)(5)

>

> Hi (b)(6)

>

> Please see if (b)(5)

>

(b)(6)

>

> 1000 Defense Pentagon | 3E880

> Washington, DC 20301-1000

> (b)(6)

(b)(6)

>

>

> ----Original Message-----

> From: (b)(6)

> Sent: Thursday, December 6, 2018 9:36 PM

> To: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

> Cc: OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List USDP MAs and SAs <(b)(6)>

(b)(6) OSD Pentagon OUSD Policy List ISA FO <(b)(6)>

> Subject: (b)(5)

>

(b)(6)

>

(b)(5)

>

(b)(6)

>

> -----

>

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Non Responsive

From: Yarrington, Matt <YarringtonMD@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 29, 2018 11:20 AM
To: Yarrington, Matt <YarringtonMD@state.gov>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Yemen Situation Report for November 29 2018

Yemen Situation Report for November 29, 2018

~~For Official Use Only~~

POLITICAL UPDATE

UN SG HOPEFUL ON SWEDEN PEACE TALKS

(SBU) While the Ambassador continues to work with UN Special Envoy Martin Griffiths and diplomatic counterparts on supporting efforts to hold consultations between the ROYG and the Houthis next week in Sweden, the United Nations announced November 28 that the conditions are "almost ready" to hold next month's peace talks on Yemen. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the organization was close to creating the necessary conditions to hold the Sweden talks between Yemen's warring parties in early December. "We are at a very crucial moment in relation to Yemen," said Guterres, who added that he had spoken earlier in the day to Griffiths. The current diplomatic initiative is being driven by the increasing threat of famine in Yemen, but also by international outrage over the murder of U.S.-based Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi on October 2 in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul which has put a spotlight on Saudi Arabia's role in the country's war.

Non Responsive

Non Responsive

Non Responsive

Non Responsive

From: (b)(6)
To: (b)(6)
Cc:
Subject: FYSA / (b)(5) JAMAL KHASHOGGI
Date: Monday, October 15, 2018 1:46:17 PM

(b)(6)

FYSA only. Below is the latest (b)(5) on journalist JAMAL KHASHOGGI.

JAMAL KHASHOGGI (UPDATED)

(b)(5)

V/R, (b)(6)

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To: (b)(6)
Subject: KSA / (b)(5)
Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 4:04:03 PM
Attachments: 2019_02_(b)(5)_FINAL.pdf

Colleagues,

Attached is the latest (b)(5) on Khashoggi/KSA.

V/R, (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

- KHASHOGGI/KSA (NEW)

(b)(5)

From: Wheelbarger, Kathryn L SES OSD OUSD POLICY (USA)
To: (b)(6) OSD OUSD POLICY (USA)
Subject: KSA
Date: Saturday, February 23, 2019 10:01:31 AM

(b)(6)

I am reading articles about the angst on the Hill about not providing an additional report under Global Magnisky on the khashoggi killing. Can you ensure I have all the letters and facts at issue. I think this briefing has the chance to steer off base a bit.

Katie

From: (b)(6)
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) William SES SD; (b)(6) Bushman.
Subject: Re: Follow-up RFI on KSA-Khashoggi murder charges & sanctions
Date: Monday, December 10, 2018 9:31:26 PM

Thank (b)(6) Appreciated!

V/R,
(b)

Sent from Mobile Device

From (b)(6)
Date: Monday, December 10, 2018 at 9:28:58 PM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: "Rivers, William CIV SD" (b)(6)
(b)(6)
(b)(6) "Bushman, William SES SD" (b)(6)
(b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: Re: Follow-up RFI on KSA-Khashoggi murder charges & sanctions

(b) the Saudis have charged 11 (including 5 pending death penalty) but we do not have any further info on the proceedings at this time, and the U.S. has sanctioned a total of 17. Hope that helps, thanks!

V/r
(b)(6)

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 10, 2018, at 7:02 PM, (b)(6) wrote:

(b)
(a)

Looping in (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

On Dec 10, 2018, at 6:52 PM (b)(6)
(b)(6) wrote:

Good evening (b)(6)

Two RFIs this end – how many people has KSA charged with murder to date over the Khashoggi killing? And how many people has the U.S. has sanctioned over it?

Thank you and V/R,

(b)
(6)

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
To:
Subject: Re: NYTimes.com: Top White House Official Involved in Saudi Sanctions Resigns
Date: Saturday, November 17, 2018 8:05:34 PM

WHAT IS HAPPENING

Sent from my iPhone

> On Nov 17, 2018, at 6:56 PM (b)(6)
(b)(6) wrote:
>
> From The New York Times;
>
> Top White House Official Involved in Saudi Sanctions Resigns
>
> The official, who had pushed for tough measures, resigned on Friday as the Trump administration wrestles with internal assessments about the killing of the Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi.
>
> <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/17/us/politics/trump-khashoggi-saudi-arabia.html>
>
>
> Thanks.
(b)(6)

Updated Information – Jamal Khashoggi

- Today, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo reiterated the Trump Administration's commitment to hold accountable those responsible for the killing of Jamal Khashoggi and announced initial actions the U.S. will take, given the information currently available.
- The United States has identified at least some of the individuals responsible, including those in intelligence services, the Royal Court, the Foreign Ministry, and other Saudi ministries who we suspect to be involved in Mr. Khashoggi's death.
- The Administration is taking appropriate actions, which include revoking visas, entering visa lookouts, and other measures. The State Department is also working with the Treasury Department to review the applicability of Global Magnitsky sanctions.
- Today's penalties will not be the last word on this matter from the United States. We will continue to explore additional measures to hold those responsible accountable.
- The Secretary underscored that the United States does not, and will not, tolerate this kind of ruthless action to silence Mr. Khashoggi, a journalist, through violence.
- The United States will continue to maintain a strong partnership with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, but the President and Administration continue to be unhappy with this situation.
- Our shared strategic interests with Saudi Arabia remain. We continue to view as achievable the twin imperatives of protecting America and holding accountable those responsible for the killing of Mr. Khashoggi.

From: (b)(6)
To:
Cc:

Subject: Yemen Defense One Article
Date: Thursday, November 1, 2018 5:09:43 PM
Attachments: [Yemen Defense One Article \(30 Oct\).docx](#)

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

It would be great if you could take a look & provide any feedback you might have!

(b)(6)

Mattis Sets 30-Day Deadline for Yemen Ceasefire

By Katie Bo Williams

Defense One Senior National Security Correspondent

October 30, 2018

(b)(5)

(b)(5)